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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,

AT

ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

HELD AT

Sarnia, 14th August, A. L. 5895: Rockport, 3rd June, A. L. 5896; and Eden Grove, 26th June, A. L. 5896,

ALSO AT THE

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

HELD AT THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE,

ON THE

15th and 16th July, A. D. 1896, A. L. 5896

The property of and Ordered to be Read in all Lodges and Preserved.

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1896.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M., of Canada, held in the Town Hall, in the Town of Sarnia, on Wednesday, the 14th day of August, A. D. 1895, A. L. 5895.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., Pembroke...Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Beamsville.....Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Allen, Toronto.....Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. R. Scott, Petrolia.....as Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. W. Smyth, Petrolia.....as Grand Chaplain.
R. W. Bro. Jas. Gowans, Sarnia.....as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. Wm. McKellar, Stratford.....Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London...as Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. C. E. Fisher, London ....as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. B. F. George, Point Edward..as Grand Junior Deacon.
R. W. Bro. A. M. Clark, Lexington, Mich., as Grand Supt. of Works.
W. Bro. C. E. Ellis, Sarnia.....as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. J. F. Lister, Sarnia.....as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. J. H. Lambert, Sarnia .....as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. G. F. Holwell, Thedford.....as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. J. H. Nash, Forest.....as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. F. Kennedy, Camlachie .....as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. W. J. Finlay, Courtright.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. J. D. Livingston, Forest.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. Alva Trussler, Camlachie ....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. Alex. Lamont, Sarnia.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. B. Richardson, Camlachie....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. S. W. Trussler, Camlachie....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. R. McKenzie, Sarnia.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. G. S. Samis, Sarnia .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. R. K. Kerr, Sarnia .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. A. F. Fisher, Brigden.....as Grand Steward.
Bro. W. Oldham, Sarnia.....as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form*, at 1.30 o'clock p. m., in the Town Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new General Hospital.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and

a procession formed, under the direction of W. Bro. C. E. Ellis, as acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll :

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the fourteenth day of August A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-five, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninty-five, the Fifty-ninth year of Our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

His Excellency the RIGHT HONORABLE JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen,
Being Governor General of Canada.
Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. G. A. KIRKPATRICK, being Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario.
The Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.
The Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.
The Hon. J. M. GIBSON, being Provincial Secretary.
His Worship W. J. PROCTOR, being Mayor of Sarnia.
M. W. Bro. W. R. WHITE, Q. C., being Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M. in the Province of Ontario.
ROBERT SCOTT, D. D. G. M. of the 2nd Masonic District.

This Corner Stone

Of The Sarnia General Hospital

was laid by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, assisted by theGrand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of Sarnia, with the usual ceremonies of the Order.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the following newspapers and records :

Masonic scroll, phial containing coins of the Dominion, history of the inception and present position of the Hospital Trust, by the Secretary, statement of the Trade of Commerce of the town, by the President of the Board of Trade, short history of the town, by the Town Clerk, sketch of the Dominion and Province of Ontario, their government, area, boundaries, population, etc., and copies of the following papers : the

Toronto Globe, the Toronto Mail and Empire, the Sarnia Observer, the Sarnia Canadian, the Sarnia Post.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by A. S. Fraser, Esq., M. D., Chairman of the Hospital Board.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Town Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

ATTEST :



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in Lear's Hall, in the Village of Rockport, in the County of Leeds, on Wednesday, the 3rd day of June, A. D. 1896, A. L. 5896.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C ..... as Grand Master.
W. Bro. J. M. Shaw ..... as Deputy Grand Master.
W. Bro. S. R. Stayner ..... as Grand Senior Warden.
W. Bro. W. J. Hinds ..... as Grand Junior Warden.
W. Bro. Rev. C. J. Young ..... as Grand Chaplain.
W. Bro. Leopold de Carle..... as Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. R. Hendry..... as Grand Registrar.
W. Bro. J. A. Bradley ..... as Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. C. W. Sumner ..... as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. M. Haas..... as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. G. Creggan ..... as Grand Supt. of Works.
Bro. Isaac Cole ..... as Grand Dir. of Cer.
Bro. Walter Beatty..... as Asst. Grand Secretary.
Bro. J. F. Tilton ..... as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
Bro. J. P. Redmond ..... as Grand Sword Bearer.
Bro. J. G. Wallace ..... as Grand Pursuivant.
Bro. H. T. Ferris ..... as Grand Steward.
Bro. T. J. Darling..... as Grand Steward.
Bro. W. O. Bell ..... as Grand Steward.
Bro. Alfred Jones ..... as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented Grand Lodge was opened in *due form*, at 3.30 o'clock, p. m., in Lear's Hall, Rockport, by the M. W. the Acting Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge was called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Church of the Redeemer (Anglican).

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of Bro. Isaac Cole, as acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing and also read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the third day of June, A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-six, A. L. Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninty-six, the Fifty-ninth year of Our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

His Excellency the RIGHT HONORABLE JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen,
Being Governor General of Canada.

Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. G. A. KIRKPATRICK, being Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

The Hon. J. M. GIBSON, being Provincial Secretary.

M. W. Bro. W. R. WHITE, Q. C., being Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M. in the Province of Ontario.
F. S. WARTMAN, D. D. G. M. of the 14th Masonic District.

This Corner Stone

OF THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, ROCKPORT,

was laid by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C., acting for the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of Rockport and vicinity, with the usual ceremonies of the Order.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the acting Grand Master by the acting Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the Craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the acting Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

After the ceremony an address was delivered by the M. W. the acting Grand Master, in the course of which he thanked

W. Bro. L. de Carle for his gift of the corner stone, which was of white marble and beautifully lettered.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the hall, and the Grand Lodge was closed in DUE FORM.

ATTEST:



J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M., of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Eden Grove, in the County of Bruce, on Friday, 26th Day of June, A. D. 1896, A. L. 5896.

PRESENT :

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, D. G. M.....as Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Jas. Walmsley.....as Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. W. A. Green.....as Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. W. R. Telford .....as Grand Junior Warden.
Bro. Rev. Isaac Macdonald, B. D...as Grand Chaplain.
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn.....as Grand Treasurer.
V. W. Bro. Henry Clark.....as Grand Registar.
V. W. Bro. C. F. Harris .....as Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. T. A. Simpson .....as Grand Senior Deacon.
W. Bro. Thos. Pinkerton.....as Grand Junior Deacon.
W. Bro. Hugh Birss.....as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. H. Hyndman, jr.....as Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. John Standish .....as Asst. Grand Secretary.
W. Bro. J. G. Pulford .....as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. Robt. Sypher .....as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. James Duggan... .....as Grand Organist.
Bro. H. Cargill .....as Asst. Grand Organist.
W. Bro. John Sutherland.....as Grand Pursuivant.
W. Bro. S. M. Hutchison .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. W. C. Morrison.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. F. R. Collins.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. F. Penton .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. J. S. Tennant.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. John McKellar.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. W. Henders.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. J. A. McPherson.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. Peter McLaren.....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. John Lee .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. C. W. Kesling .....as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. J. T. Chittick..... .....as Grand Tyler.

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *due form*, at 1 o'clock p. m., in the lodge-room of Moravian Lodge, No. 431, Eden Grove, by the R. W. the Deputy Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge has been called for the

purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Presbyterian Church at Glammis.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers have received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of V. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, Jr., acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched, headed by the Pinkerton Brass Band, to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll:

In the Name and by the Favor of God the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the 26th Day of June, A. D. 1896, A. L. 5896,

In the sixtieth year of the reign of Our Most Gracious Sovereign,

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

His Excellency The Right Hon. Sir JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, F. C., LL. D., Earl of Aberdeen, being Governor General of the Dominion of Canada.

The Right Hon. GEORGE AIRY KIRKPATRICK, being Lieut. Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Hon. Sir CHARLES TUPPER, being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Hon. Sir OLIVER MOWAT, being Premier of the Province of Ontario.

M. W. Bro. W. R. WHITE, Q. C., being Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario.

The Rev. D. M. GORDON, being Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Rev. ISAAC HUNTER MACDONALD, being Minister of Presbyterian Church, Leamis.

R. W. Bro. JAMES WALMSLEY, being D. D., G. M., of the Fifth Masonic District.

Elders—JOHN WRIGHT, JOHN ROSS, JOHN A. MACKENZIE, JOHN ARNOTH, GEORGE McNALLY, NEIL GILCHRIST, MURDOCK L. MORTEN, Esquires.

Building Committee—Rev. ISSAC MACDONALD, PETER GILGHRIST, NEIL GILCHRIST, DOWD MORRISON, JOHN ROSS, HENRY POCOCK, THOMAS ROWAN, VALENTINE ROWAN, ALEXANDER WRIGHT, ROBERT ROWAN and CHARLES McKINNON, Esquires.

Architect—JAMES WATT, Walkerton.

Builders—ROBERT McFADYEN, ARCHIBALD McFADYEN and KENNETH WRIGHT, Esquires.

This Corner Stone

Of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

was laid by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P., Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M of Canada, in Ontario, assisted by the Grand Officers and in the presence of a large concourse of Brethren and citizens, with the usual ceremonies of the Order.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins, and certain newspapers and records.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the R. W. the acting Grand Master, by Brother the Rev. Isaac Macdonald, B. D.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the Craftsmen had done their duty.

The R. W. the acting Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

After the ceremony addresses were delivered by the R. W. the acting Grand Master and by Bros. Henry Cargill and the Rev. Isaac Macdonald.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the lodge room, and Grand Lodge was closed in DUE FORM.

ATTEST:

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA

J. J. Maxwell

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At the Forty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, held in the City of Belleville, commencing on Wednesday, the 15th day of July, A. D. 1896, A. L. 5896.

PRESENT:

THE GRAND MASTER,

M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., on the Throne.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P.

R. W. Bro. Benjamin Allen ..... Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. J. B. Rankin ..... Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Rev. E. Horace Mussen, B.A. Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray ..... Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. Wm. McKellar ..... Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason ..... Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. H. McC. Wright ..... as Grand Senior Deacon.
V. W. Bro. John Waddell ..... Grand Junior Deacon.
V. W. Bro. Thos. Beattie ..... as Grand Supt. of Works.
V. W. Bro. Geo. C. Patterson ..... Grand Dir. of Cer.
V. W. Bro. A. E. Neil ..... Ass't Grand Secretary.
V. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, Jr. ..... Ass't Grand Dir. of Cer.
W. Bro. James Bicknell ..... as Grand Sword Bearer.
W. Bro. A. T. Shaw ..... as Grand Organist.
W. Bro. E. B. Mullett ..... as Grand Pursuivant.
V. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson ..... Grand Steward.
V. W. Bro. Alex. Logan ..... Grand Steward.
V. W. Bro. H. Welbanks ..... Grand Steward.
V. W. Bro. J. G. Gillespie ..... Grand Steward.
V. W. Bro. John Hall ..... Grand Steward.
V. W. Bro. James Old ..... as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. T. M. Davis ..... as Grand Steward.
W. Bro. Jas. Macoun ..... as Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. J. B. Carscallen ..... Erie District ..... No. 1
R. W. Bro. Robt. Scott ..... St. Clair District ... " 2
R. W. Bro. W. W. Rutherford ..... London District .... " 3
R. W. Bro. Jas. A. MacFadden ..... South Huron District " 4
R. W. Bro. Jas. Walmsley ..... North Huron District " 5
R. W. Bro. J. G. Fraser ..... Wilson District ..... " 6
R. W. Bro. James S. Dewar ..... Wellington District . " 7
R. W. Bro. George C. Holden ..... Hamilton District ... " 8

R. W. Bro. R E. Fletcher	Georgian District ...	No. 9
R. W. Bro. J. C. Bartle	Niagara District	" 10
R. W. Bro. Rich'd Dinnis	Toronto District....	" 11
R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood	Ontario District	" 12
R. W. Bro. J. S. Dench	Prince Edw'd Distri't	" 13
R. W. Bro. F. S. Wartman	Frontenac District..	" 14
R. W. Bro. O. Bascom	St. Lawrence Distri't	" 15
R. W. Bro. A. Hood	Ottawa District.....	" 16
R. W. Bro. A. More	Algoma District	" 17

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.	FROM GRAND LODGE OF
M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson	England.
R. W. Bro. Kivas Tully	Ireland.
V. W. Bro. Robt. McKnight	Prince Edward Island.
R. W. Bro. L. Secord	New Zealand.
R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt	South Australia.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson	Victoria.
R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell	Alabama.
R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler	Arkansas.
V. W. Bro. G. S. Ryerson	California.
M. W. Bro. H'y Robertson	District of Columbia.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason	Florida.
M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C	Georgia.
V. W. Bro. Jas. H. Flock, Q. C	Idaho.
R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Davis	Illinois.
M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry	Kentucky and Greece.
R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt	Louisiana.
R. W. Bro. Wm. Smeaton	Maryland.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford	Michigan.
M. W. Bro. Hon. J M. Gibson, Q. C	Montana.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray	New York.
R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar	North Dakota.
R. W. Bro. David Taylor	Oregon.
R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone	South Dakota.
R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson	Tennessee.
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn	Vermont.
R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q. C	West Virginia.
R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson	Washington.
R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargant	Wisconsin.
R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait	The Island of Cuba.
R. W. Bro. H. J. Wilkinson	Hungary.
M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C	Peru.
R. W. Bro. W. L. Hamilton	Switzerland.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—M. W. Bros. D. Spry, Hugh Murray, Hy. Robertson, R. T. Walkem, J. Ross Robertson and Hon. J. M. Gibson.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—R. W. Bros. H. J. Wilkinson, G. Tait, Donald Ross, G. J. Bennett, W. Roaf, R. L. Gunn, W. McKay, A. B. Munson, J. B. Nixon, J. C. Hegler, D. H. Martyn, T. Sargant, W. T. Toner, D. F. Macwatt, J. F. Graham, J. H. Burritt, J. E. Harding, R. W. Longmore, John Sinclair, R. B. Hungerford, Wm. Rea, R. M. Stuart, W. Webster, W. Smeaton, W. L. Hamilton, W. D. Hepburn A. Hess, H. A. Collins, E. T. Malone, Isaac Huber, A. B. Hurrell, W. R. Howse, S. C. Warner, S. S. Lazier, Kivas Tully, David Taylor,

T. McCallum, E. S. Wigle, S. B. Fell, John Boyd, John McLaren, G. H. Dartnell, John Hewton, R. Mahoney, A. B. Jardine, J. A. McGillivray and T. F. Chamberlain.

Past Grand Senior Wardens.—R. W. Bros. A. McGinnis, W. Simpson, D. Sinclair, G. R. Vanzant, J. E. D'Avignon, L. Secord and A. W. Porte.

Past Grand Junior Wardens.—R. W. Bros. A. E. Cooper, G. C. Davis, J. S. Dewar, Allan McLean, Geo. Inglis and F. Cook.

Past Grand Chaplain.—R. W. Bro. L. A. Betts.

Past Grand Registrars.—R. W. Bros. F. F. Manley, F. C. Martin, W. C. Wilkinson and R. J. Craig.

Past Grand Senior Deacons.—V. W. Bros. G. S. Ryerson, J. H. Knifton, and A. A. S. Ardagh.

Past Grand Superintendents of Works.—V. W. Bros. C. F. Mansell and Thos. Beattie.

Past Grand Directors of Ceremonies.—V. W. Bros. James Walters, and H. McC. Wright.

Past Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies.—V. W. Bros. A. G. Horwood, A. Patterson, and J. Parker Thomas.

Past Grand Sword Bearer.—V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert.

Past Assistant Grand Organist.—V. W. Bro. N. L. Steiner.

Past Grand Pursuivant.—V. W. Bro. John Newton.

Past Grand Stewards.—V. W. Bros. D. Rose, N. B. Falkiner, A. R. Hargraft, James Old, J. H. Flock, R. McKnight, Wm. McKeown, W. H. Chittick, W. McGowan, John Erskine, G. A. Aylesworth, James McNeil, A. Shaw, T. W. Chappel, R. J. Pujolas, E. J. Voss, and S. Henry.

Past Grand Standard Bearers.—V. W. Bros. L. A. Congdon and W. H. Macnee.

Before the opening of Grand Lodge, W. Bro. J. E. Walmsley, Mayor of Belleville, and a number of the members of the City Council were announced, introduced and presented the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada A. F. & A. M., in Ontario:

The citizens of Belleville, whom I have the honor to represent, unite in extending a cordial civic welcome to yourself and to the distinguished members of the honored fraternity over whom you preside, upon this the auspicious occasion of the first visit of Grand Lodge to our city. Your venerable and respected order has been well and favorably known in this Bay of Quinte district through the generous and systematic charity practised by your lodges, and through the meritorious lives of many members of your Craft, some of whom have in recent years passed over to the great majority—who would have rejoiced to have joined with us to-day in welcoming those upon whom now lies the responsibility of governing an organization, the tenets of which all good citizens can appreciate and subscribe to, expressed as they are in the comprehensive words, "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth." Composed of loyal

citizens, known by their works, actuated by the maxim "let all things be done decently and in order," it is a privilege to any municipality to be afforded the opportunity of entertaining such a large body of representative men, and also incidentally of returning in some measure the hospitality and friendly greetings extended to our own citizens in other places, during the annual meetings at which you gather to devise and carry out means for the furtherance of your fraternity's progress and the amelioration of the lot of many partly dependent upon you. In this connection the proposed establishment of a Masonic home meets with our warmest commendation, and should Belleville—so centrally and advantageously situated—be chosen as its permanent location, substantial pecuniary aid and a free site in a beautiful and healthy locality, are hereby tendered. Let me hope that the results of this great gathering may be all that you have anticipated, both in good work well done, and in the social enjoyment of reunion and co-operation. May the ideal of a universal brotherhood and truly fraternal citizenship be approached, and may your stay in Belleville and vicinity be among your real "pleasures of memory," which (with the knowledge that a warm welcome again awaits you), will, we trust, soon draw you back again to our city and the shores of our Bay of Quinte.

On behalf of the municipality and the citizens of Belleville, I give you hearty greetings.

The M. W. the Grand Master, having made a suitable response, and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form* at 2.40 o'clock p. m., and the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon the proceedings.

A deputation of Masters from the Belleville Lodges, accompanied by R. W. Bro. McGinnis, were announced, introduced, and presented the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME:

To M. W. Bro. William R. White, Q. C., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR,—The Past Masters, Masters, Officers, and Members of the Masonic lodges of Belleville tender you and the Grand Lodge a sincere and hearty welcome to the City of the Bay. For many years it has been the dream of the local fraternity that Grand Lodge should hold its meeting here, and now that the dream has become a reality, now that we have awakened to find our hope realized, it is a sight which gladdens our fraternal eyes. We fully recognize and appre-

ciate the honor done us in the selection of our city as the gathering place of the representatives of the Craft from all parts of Ontario; and we venture to hope that this the first visit of Grand Lodge to Belleville may not be the last. That Masonry is alive and flourishing amongst us, the large and steadily increasing accessions to the Craft amply prove; that your welcome visit may be a healthy stimulus in that direction we confidently trust. To you personally, Most Worshipful Sir, we extend our sincere congratulations. We feel that to the earnest attention, energy, ability and unfailing courtesy which have marked your course as Grand Master for the past two years are due the success which has attended your official labors, and the undoubted prosperity of our order. We trust that as you and the other members of Grand Lodge look back upon the Communication of 1896, it will be with no feeling but one of satisfaction at your choice of a meeting place and with nothing to regret. Invoking the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon your labors, we again bid you a cordial welcome to our city.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bros. R. B. Hungerford, and Wm. Roaf and W. Bros. Henry Pringle, the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from Lodges, reported the following as being present:

No. 2. *Niagara, Niagara.*
W. Bro. John G. Rousseau, P. M., Proxy.

No. 3. *The Ancient St. John's, Kingston.*
W. Bro. W. T. Minnes, W. M.; M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem; R. W. Bro. H. J. Wilkinson, and V. W. Bros. John Waddell and W. H. Macnee, P. M's.

No. 5. *Sussex, Brockville.*
W. Bro. A. Urquhart, P. M., Proxy.

No. 6. *The Barton, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. A. T. Freed, W. M.; R. W. Bros. W. R. Howse and Wm. Gibson, and W. Bros. T. Clappison, James Bicknell and T. W. Reynolds, P. M's.

No. 7. *Union, Grimsby.*
W. Bro. W. D. Forbes, W. M.

No. 9. *Union, Napanee.*
W. Bro. J. W. Robinson, W. M.; R. W. Bro. S. C. Warner; V. W. Bro. James Walters, and W. Bro. T. D. Pruyn, P. M's.

No. 10. *Norfolk, Simcoe.*
V. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, W. M.

No. 11. *Moira, Belleville.*
W. Bro. J. O. Frost W. M.; Bros. D. F. Bogart, S. W., and W. Kennedy, J. W.; R. W. Bros. Arthur McGinnis and S. S. Lazier; V. W. Bros. John Newton and N. B. Falkiner, and W. Bros. J. J. Farley, W. C. Mikel, Wm. Robertson, T. C. Jones, W. Lattimer, Geo. Dulmage, C. D. Hunter and Wm. Docter, P. M's.

No. 14. *True Britons', Perth*
W Bro. W. T. Walker, W. M.

No. 15. *St. George's, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. C. H. Connor, P. M., Proxy.

No. 16. *St. Andrew's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. John W. Dowd, W. M.; R. W. Bros. W. C. Wilkinson, Geo. Tait and Kivas Tully; V. W. Bro. Daniel Rose, and W. Bro. James Glanville, P. M's.

No. 17. *St. John's, Cobourg.*
R. W. Bro. R. J. Craig, P. M., Proxy; V. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and W. Bro. George Spence, P. M's.

No. 18. *Prince Edward, Picton.*
W. Bro. A. C. Bowerman, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Donald Ross; V. W. Bro. H. Welbanks, and W. Bros. W. T. Shaw, R. A. Williamson, Jas. H. Colden and W. R. Leavens, P. M's.

No. 20. *St. John's, London.*
W. Bros. D. W. Blackwell, W. M., and A. B. Greer, P. M.

No. 21. *St. John's, Vankleek Hill.*
R. W. Bro. David Taylor, Proxy.

No. 22. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
Bro. Raymond Walker, S. W.; M. W. Bros. Daniel Spry and J. Ross Robertson, and W. Bros. S. Hollingworth, John Hall, Aubrey White and W. A. Lyon, P. M's.

No. 23. *Richmond, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bro. P. G. Savage, W. M.; W. Bros. T. F. McMahon, J. Crosby, J. E. Clubine and T. Newton, P. M's.

No. 24. *St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bro. Wm. Hyndman, W. M.

No. 25. *Ionic, Toronto.*
W. Bro. A. B. Aylesworth, W. M.; Bro. E. B. Brown, J. W.; R. W. Bros. F. F. Manley, G. J. Bennett and Wm. Roaf; V. W. Bros. G. S Ryerson, and W. Bros. Walter Barwick, W. G. Eakins and Thos. Millman, P. M's.

No. 26. *Ontario, Port Hope.*
W. Bros. James Evans, P. M., Proxy; and J. W. Quinlan, P. M.

No. 27. *Strict Observance, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. T. M. Davis, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Hon. J. M. Gibson, and R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason and R. L. Gunn, P. M's.

No. 28. *Mount Zion, Kemptville.*
R. W. Bro. O. Bascom, P. M., Proxy.

No. 30. *Composite, Whitby.*
W. Bros. J. H. Gale, W. M.; A. M. Ross and Joseph White, P. M.'s.

No. 31. *Jerusalem, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. T. Fitzgerald, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Wm. McKay, P. M.

No. 32. *Amity, Dunnville.*
Bro. R. G. W. Conolly, S. W.; V. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon and W. Bro. S. Amsden, P. M.'s.

No. 33. *Maitland, Goderich.*
W. Bro. C. A. Humber, P. M., Proxy.

No. 35. *St. John's Cayuga.*
W. Bros. W. M. Connor, W. M.; J. J. G. Carruthers, P. M.

No. 37. *King Hiram, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. Beattie Patterson, W. M.

No. 38. *Trent, Trenton.*
W. Bro. W. O. Lott, W. M.; Bro. R. H. Spencer, J. W.; R. W. Bro. J. S. Dench, and W. Bros. R. Weddell, Rev. W. T. Wilkins and J. Skelton, P. M's.

No. 39. *Mount Zion, Brooklin.*
W. Bro. W. G. Armour, W. M.

No. 40. *St. John's, Hamilton.*
Bro. J. E. Riddell, S. W.; R. W. Bro. T. McCallum, P. M.

No. 41. *St. George's, Kingsville.*
R. W. Bro. E. S. Wigle, Proxy.

No. 42. *St. George's, London.*
W. Bro. John Blanch, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Munson, and W. Bro. John Callan, P. M's.

No. 43. *King Solomon's, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. Clifford Kemp, W. M.; R. W. Bro. G. J. Fraser, P. M.

No. 44. *St. Thomas, St. Thomas.*
W. Bro. Geo. Strecks, W. M.

No. 45. *Brant, Brantford.*
W. Bro. S. F. Passmore, P. M., Proxy.

No. 46. *Wellington, Chatham.*
W. Bro. Geo. B. Crumb, W. M.

No. 47. *Great Western, Windsor.*
W. Bro. A. J. Little, W. M.; Bros. Thos. Peters, S. W., and G. B. Quamby, J. W.

No. 48. *Madoc, Madoc.*
W. Bros. J. R. Orr, W. M., and A. H. Watson, P. M.

No. 52. *Dalhousie, Ottawa.*
W. Bros. M. Birkett, W. M., and E. D. Parlow, and G. S. May, P. M's.

No. 54. *Vaughn, Maple.*
W. Bro. C. H. Keffer, P. M., Proxy.

No 56. *Victoria, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. Sutherland Johnston, W. M.

No. 57. *Harmony, Binbrook.*
W. Bro. S. C. Wright, W. M.

No. 58. *Doric, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. S. A. Luke, P. M., Proxy.

No. 61. *Acacia, Hamilton.*
Bro. A. S. Levy, J. W.; M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, R. W. Bro. G. C. Holden and W. Bro. Alex. McKay, P. M's.

No. 62. *St. Andrew's, Caledonia.*
W. Bro. H. C. Clark, W. M.; V. W. Bro. James Old and W. Bro. Joseph Bingle, P. M's.

No. 63. *St. John's, Carleton Place.*
W. Bros. E. G. P. Pickup, W. M.; and Wm. Sutherland, P. M.

No. 64. *Kilwinning, London.*
V. W. Bro. J. H. Flock, P. M., Proxy; W. Bros. John Overell, A. A. Campbell and Joseph Dambra, P. M's.

No. 65. *Rehoboam, Toronto.*
W. Bro. F. W. Unitt, W. M.; Bro. C. H. Mortimer, S. W.; R. W. Bros. J. B. Nixon and Richard Dinnis, P. M's.

No. 68. *St. John's Ingersoll.*
Bro. Angus McLeod, J. W.; R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler and W. Bro. W. A. Sinclair, P. M's.

No. 69. *Stirling, Stirling.*
W. Bro. H. J. Micklejohn, W. M.; Bros. W. C. Boardman, S. W., and T. H. McKee, J. W.; W. Bros. B. O. Lott, and W. Vandervort, P. M's.

No. 72. *Alma, Galt.*
Bro. Wm. Baird, S. W.; W. Bro. A. J. Oliver, P. M.

No. 73. *St. James, St. Mary's.*
W. Bro. W. Webster, W. M.

No. 75. *St. John's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. Tomlinson, W. M.; Bro. S. Love, S. W.; R. W. Bro. Wm. Simpson; V. W. Bros. N. L. Steiner, and John Erskine, and W. Bros. C. A. Matthews, and M. Stewart, P. M's.

No. 76. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. F. J. Ure, W. M.; R. W. Bro F. C. Martin, P. M.

No. 77. *Faithful Brethren, Lindsay.*
Bros. J. W. Britton, S. W., and A. Williamson, J. W.

No. 79. *Simcoe, Bradford.*
W. Bro. E. A. Boddy, W. M.

No. 81. *St. John's, Mt. Brydges.*
R. W. Bro. John Sinclair, Proxy.

No. 83. *Beaver, Strathroy.*
W. Bro. J. F. Taylor, W. M.

No. 84. *Clinton, Clinton.*
W. Bro. A. J. Holloway, W. M.

No. 85. *Rising Sun, Athens.*
W. Bro. H. A. Stewart, W. M.

No. 86. *Wilson, Toronto.*
W. Bro. Geo. Duthie, W. M.; Bros. J. W. Johnson, S. W., and E. M. Carleton, J. W.; R. W. Bro. T. Sargant, and V. W. Bro. Alex. Patterson, P. M's.

No. 87. *Markham Union, Markham.*
W. Bro. John Turner, W. M.; R. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant, P. M.

No. 88. *St. George's, Owen Sound.*
V. W. Bro. R. McKnight, P. M.

No. 90. *Manito, Collingwood.*
W. Bro. John Wilson, W. M.; M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and R. W. Bro. W. T. Toner, P. M's.

No. 91. *Colborne, Colborne.*
W. Bro Henry Brown, W. M.

No. 92. *Cataraqui, Kingston.*
V W. Bro. A. Shaw, P. M., Proxy.

No. 93. *Northern Light, Kincardine.*
W. Bro. F. R. Collins, W. M.; R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, P. M.

No. 96. *Corinthian, Barrie.*
R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt, P. M., Proxy.

No. 98. *True Blue, Bolton.*
W. Bro. John York, W. M.

No. 99. *Tuscan, Newmarket.*
W. Bros. P. T. Lee and W. A. Brunton, P. M's.

No. 100. *Valley, Dundas.*
R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn, Proxy.

No. 101. *Corinthian, Peterboro.*
W. Bro. W. F. Johnston, W. M.; Bro. D. H. Burritt, J. W.; R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, P. M.

No. 103. *Maple Leaf, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. F. D. Burgar, W. M.

No. 104. *St. John's, Norwich.*
W. Bro. Alfred Kenning, W. M.

No. 107. *St. Paul's, Lambeth.*
W. Bro. W. C. Harris, Proxy.

No. 108. *Blenheim, Princeton.*
W. Bro. A. Curry, W. M.; V. W. Bro. John Hall, P. M.

No. 109. *Athon, Harrowsmith.*
W. Bro. A. Forsyth, W. M.; R. W. Bro. F. S. Wartman, P M.

No. 110. *Central, Prescott.*
W. Bro. G. Rook, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. F. Graham, P. M.

No. 114. *Hope, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. W. G. Coulter, W. M.

No. 115. *Ivy, Beamsville.*
W. Bro. T. A. Simpson, W. M.

No. 116. *Cassia, Thedford.*
W. Bro. J. D. Morrison, W. M.

No. 119. *Maple Leaf, Bath.*
W. Bros. H. S. Northmoore, W. M.; F. W. Armstrong, P. M.

No. 120. *Warren, Fingal.*
W. Bro. F. Guest, W. M.

No. 121. *Doric, Brantford.*
W. Bro. W. D. Jones, W. M.; R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and W. Bro. J. G. Liddell, P. M's.

No. 123. *The Belleville, Belleville.*
W. Bro. J. E. Walmsley, W. M.; Bro. W. N. Ponton, S. W.; V. W. Bros. J. Parker Thomas and Wm. McKeown, and W. Bros. J. P. Thompson, Jas. Macoun, Henry Pringle, Walter Alford, James Adams, R. E Clarke and A. Wensley, P. M's.

No. 125. *Cornwall, Cornwall.*
V. W. Bro. C. F. Mansell, Proxy.

No. 126. *Golden Rule Campbellford.*
W. Bro. Geo. T. Dickson, W. M.; Bro. C. E. Dunk, S. W.; W. Bro. C. G. Wensley, P. M.

No. 127. *Franck, Frankford.*
Bro. Thomas Crowe, S. W.

No. 128. *Pembroke, Pembroke.*
W. Bro. J C. Stewart, W. M.; Bro. J. H. Leach, S. W.; M. W. Bro. W. R. White; R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt and W. Bro. J. G. Forgie, P. M's.

No. 129. *The Rising Sun, Aurora.*
W. Bro. D. A. Radcliffe, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. E. H. Mussen, P. M.

No. 133. *Lebanon Forest, Exeter.*
R. W. Bro. A. W. Porte, Proxy.

No. 135. *St. Clair, Milton.*
W. Bro. T. M. Davis, Proxy.

No. 139. *Lebanon, Oshawa.*
W. Bro. T. G. Ryley, W. M.

No. 140. *Malahide, Aylmer.*
R. W. Bro. W. W. Rutherford, P. M., Proxy.

No. 141. *Tudor. Mitchell.*
W. Bros. A. Cameron, W. M., and W. Elliott, P. M.

No. 142. *Excelsior, Morrisburg.*
R. W. Bro. S. B. Fell, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. T. F.

Chamberlain, and W. Bros. W. P. Chamberlain, and G. H. S. Kennedy, P. M's.

No. 143. *Friendly Brothers, Iroquois.*
W. Bros. J. H. Currie, W. M., and D. A. Macdonell, P. M.

No. 144. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*
Bro. W. J. Mooney, S. W.; R. W. Bros. J. E. Harding, and Wm. McKellar, and V. W. Bro. A. E. Neil., P. M's.

No. 145. *J. B. Hall, Millbrook.*
W. Bros. Hy. Turner, W. M., and R. Ruddy, P. M.

No. 146. *Prince of Wales, Newburgh.*
Bro. D. A. Nesbit, S. W.; R. W. Bro. R. W. Longmore, ; V. W. Bro. G. A. Aylesworth, and W. Bro. P. Johnstone, P. M's.

No. 147. *Mississippi, Almonte.*
Bro. Robt. McKenzie, J. W.

No. 148. *Civil Service, Ottawa.*
W. Bros. A. W. Harris, W. M., and H. P. Macdonell, P. M.

No. 151. *The Grand River, Berlin.*
W. Bros. E. P. Cornell, W. M., and A. Oelschlager, P. M.

No. 153. *Burns, Wyoming.*
W. Bro. R. Coghlan, W. M.

No. 155. *Peterboro, Peterboro.*
W. Bros. Alex. Gibson, W. M., and W. J. Martin, and R. Logan, P. M's.

No 156. *York, North Toronto.*
W. Bros. C. C. Norris, P. M., Proxy, and L. S. Lewis, and W. Duncan, P. M's.

No. 158. *Alexandra, Oil Springs.*
R. W. Bro. Robert Scott, Proxy.

No. 159. *Goodwood, Richmond.*
R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Proxy.

No. 161. *Percy, Warkworth.*
W. Bro. J. A. Denike, W. M.

No. 164. *Star in the East, Wellington.*
W. Bro. C. S. Cunningham, W. M.; Bro. A. M. Crawford, J. W.; W. Bros. C. C. Spencer, R. Wilson, E. W. Greer, F. A. Burlingham, and W. W. Fitzgerald, P. M's.

No. 165. *Burlington, Burlington.*
W. Bro. R. C. Stewart, W. M.

No. 166. *Wentworth, Stony Creek.*
W. Bro. T. H. Corman, W. M.

No. 168. *Merritt, Welland.*
W. Bro. L. C. Raymond, W. M.; Bro. W. E. Barker, S. W.

No. 170. *Britannia, Seaforth.*
W. Bro. J. H. Reid, W. M.

No. 171. *Prince of Wales, Iona.*
W. Bro. F. Guest, Proxy.

No. 177. *The Builders', Ottawa.*
R. W. Bros. Wm. Rea, W. M.. and David Taylor, and F. Cook, P. M.'s.

No. 178. *Plattsville, Plattsville.*
W. Bro. A. Calder, W. M.; V. W. Bro. T. Allshire, P. M.

No. 180. *Speed, Guelph.*
W. Bros. W. A. Rapp, W. M., and Thos. New, P. M.

No. 181. *Oriental, Port Burwell.*
R. W. Bro. F. C. Martin, Proxy.

No. 184. *Old Light, Lucknow.*
W. Bro. J. S. Tennant, P. M., Proxy.

No. 185. *Enniskillen, York.*
W. Bro. S. N. Davis, W. M.

No. 186. *Plantagenet, Plantagenet.*
Bro. F. L. Switzer, S. W.

No. 190. *Belmont, Belmont.*
R. W. Bro. John Boyd, P. M., Proxy.

No. 192. *Orillia, Orillia.*
W. Bro. W. H. Tudhope, W. M.

No. 193. *Scotland, Scotland.*
W. Bros. W. C. Smith, W. M., and C. L. Merritt, P. M.

No. 194. *Petrolia, Petrolia.*
R. W. Bros. John Sinclair, P. M., Proxy, and Robt. Scott, P. M.

No. 195. *The Tuscan, London.*
R. W. Bros. A. W. Porte and R. B. Hungerford, V. W. Bro. Thos. Beattie and W. Bro. A. J. McWhinney, P. M's.

No. 196. *Madawaska, Arnprior.*
R. W. Bro. A. Hood, P. M., Proxy.

No. 197. *Saugeen, Walkerton.*
W. Bro. G. J. Dickinson, W. M.

No. 200. *St. Alban's, Mt. Forest.*
W. Bros. J. S. Ireland, W. M., and T. R. Glanville, P. M.

No. 205. *New Dominion, New Hamburgh.*
W. Bro. John Marty, W. M.

No. 207. *Lancaster, Lancaster.*
W. Bro. J. P. Snider, W. M.

No. 209a. *St. John's, London.*
W. Bro. W. J. Clarke, W. M.; R. W. Bros. G. C. Davis, John S. Dewar and A. E. Cooper, and W. Bro. C. A. Kingston, P. M's.

No. 209. *Evergreen, Lanark.*
W. Bro. J. H. Wilson, P. M

No. 212. *Elysian, Garden Island.*
V. W. Bro. A. Shaw, Proxy.

No. 215. *Lake, Ameliasburg.*
W. Bro. W. R. Johnston, P. M., Proxy.

No. 216. *Harris, Orangeville.*
R. W. Bro. Jas. S. Dewar, Proxy; R. W. Bro. J. McLaren, P. M.

No. 218. *Stevenson, Toronto.*
W. Bro. R. W. Higginbottom, P. M., Proxy; V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert and W. Bros. C. H. Corton and John Nicholson, P. M's.

No. 219. *Credit, Georgetown.*
W. Bro. S. Beaumont, P. M., Proxy.

No. 220. *Zeredatha, Uxbridge.*
W. Bro. H. Bascom, W. M.; Bro. H. J. Gould, S. W.; R. W. Bro. G. H. Dartnell; V. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple, and W. Bros Geo. Thompson, J. H. Johnston and W. A McCulloch, P. M's.

No. 222. *Marmora, Marmora.*
W. Bro. Mark Devlin, W. M.

No. 223. *Norwood, Norwood.*
W. Bros. Wm. Hutchison, W. M., and E. Gear, P. M.

No. 224. *Zurich, Hensall.*
W. Bro. G. T. McKay, P. M., Proxy.

No. 225. *Bernard, Listowel.*
W. Bros. H. P. Morphy, W. M., and M. McD. Fleming and B. F. Brook, P. M's.

No. 228. *Prince Arthur, Odessa.*
W. Bro. The Rev. F. T. Dibb, W. M.

No. 229. *Ionic, Brampton.*
W. Bro. A. Morton, P. M., Proxy.

No. 230. *Kerr, Barrie.*
R. W. Bro. R. E. Fletcher, P. M., Proxy.

No. 231. *Fidelity, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. H. Burgess, W. M.

No. 232. *Cameron, Dutton.*
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.

No. 236. *Manitoba, Cookstown.*
W. Bro. W. C. Stewart, P. M.

No. 237. *Vienna, Vienna.*
R. W. Bro. F. C. Martin, Proxy.

No. 238. *Havelock, Watford.*
W. Bro. Thos. Goodhand, W. M.

No. 239. *Tweed, Tweed,*
W. Bro. J. D. Huyck, W. M.

No. 245. *Tecumseh, Thamesville.*
W. Bros. John Davidson, W. M., and E. S. Hubbell, John Stewart, and R. N. Fraser, P. M's.

No. 247. *Ashlar, Toronto.*
W. Bro. Curran Morrison, W. M ; R. W. Bro. B. Allen, and W. Bros. G. S. Pearcy, and H. B. Howson, P. M's.

No. 249. *Caledonia, Midland.*
R. W. Bro. R. E. Fletcher, Proxy.

No. 250. *Thistle, Embro.*
R. W. Bro. R. B Hungerford, Proxy.

No. 253. *Minden, Kingston.*
W. Bro. Wm. Gill, W. M., and R. W. Bros. Allan LcLean, and John Hewton, P. M's.

No. 254. *Clifton, Niagara Falls.*
Bro. F. F. Wood, S. W. ; R. W. Bro. J. C. Bartle; V. W. Bro. A. Logan, and W. Bro. W. F. Broughton, P. M's.

No. 255. *Sydenham, Dresden.*
R. W. Bros. J. B. Carscallen, P. M., Proxy, and R. M. Stuart, P. M.

No. 256. *Farran's Point, Farran's Point.*
W. Bro. A. E. Fetterly, W. M.

No. 258. *Guelph, Guelph.*
W. Bro. G. J. Brill, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. R. Mahoney, and W. Bro. R. Higham, P. M's.

No. 260. *Washington, Petrolia.*
W. Bro. E. Marshall, P. M., Proxy.

No. 261. *Oak Branch, Innerkip.*
W. Bro. W. E. Hopkins, W. M.

No. 262. *Harriston, Harriston.*
V. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, Proxy.

No. 264. *Chaudiere Ottawa.*
W. Bro. Robert Fair, W. M.

No. 265. *Patterson, Thornhill.*
W. Bro. R. S. Thompson, W. M.; W. Bro. the Rev. W. W. Bates, P. M.

No. 266. *Northern Light, Stayner.*
W. Bro. Joseph Hood, W. M.

No. 267. *Parthenon, Chatham.*
R. W. Bro. J. B. Rankin, P. M., Proxy; W. Bro. W. H. Sills, P. M.

No. 268. *Verulam, Bobcaygeon.*
W. Bros. A. E. Bottum, P. M., Proxy, and E. W. J. Read, P. M.

No. 269. *Brougham Union, Brougham.*
W. Bros. G. D. Linton, P. M., Proxy, and E. J. Walsh, P. M.

No. 270. *Cedar, Oshawa.*
W. Bro. John Lauder, W. M.

No. 272. *Seymour, Ancaster.*
W. Bro. James Stewart, W. M.

No. 274. *Kent, Blenheim.*
W. Bro. A. F. Robertson, W. M.

No. 278. *Mystic, Roslin.*
W. Bro. E. B. Mullett, W. M.; Bro. S. McIntosh Foster, J. W.; W. Bros. C. Hudson, J. A. McMullen, and A. Herrity, P. M.'s.

No. 282. *Lorne, Glencoe.*
W. Bro. J. E. Steele, W. M.

No. 283. *Eureka, Belleville.*
W. Bro. L. R. Terwillgar, W. M.; Bros. W. Alford, S. W., and F. E. O. Flynn, J. W.; R. W. Bros. Wm. Smeaton, W. L. Hamilton and Wm. Webster, and W. Bros. H. McIninch, W. Kemp, John Fenn and George Clinton, P. M's.

No. 284. *St. John's, Brussels.*
W. Bro. Henry James, W. M.

No. 285. *Seven Star, Alliston.*
V. W. Bro. H. McC. Wright, P. M., Proxy.

No. 287. *Shuniah, Port Arthur.*
R. W. Bro. A. More, Proxy.

No. 289. *Doric, Lobo.*
W. Bros. N. A. Graham, W. M., and J. D. Dewar, P. M.

No. 290. *Leamington, Leamington.*
W. Bro. R. Hillier, W. M.

No. 291. *Dufferin, West Flamboro.*
W. Bro. Alfred Jones, P. M., Proxy.

No. 296. *Temple, St. Catharines.*
W. Bro. W. G. Maybee, W. M.

No. 297. *Preston, Preston.*
R. W. Bro. A. B. Jardine, P. M., Proxy.

No. 299. *Victoria, Centreville.*
W. Bro. Robert Cox, P. M., Proxy.

No. 300. *Mt. Olivet, Thorndale.*
W. Bro. R. Guest, W. M.

No. 302. *St. David's, St. Thomas.*
W. Bro. George Scrase, W. M.

No. 303. *Blyth, Blyth.*
W. Bro. J. B. Tiernay, P. M., Proxy.

No. 305. *Humber, Weston.*
V. W. Bro. R. J. Pujolas and W. Bro. J. Gould, P. M's.

No. 306. *Durham, Durham.*
R. W. Bro. Jas. S. Dewar, Proxy.

No. 307. *Arkona, Arkona.*
W. Bro. Frank Hooper, P. M., Proxy.

No. 311. *Blackwood, Woodbridge.*
W. Bros. G. Gilmour, P. M., Proxy, and T. A. Agar, P. M.

No. 312 *Pnyx, Wallaceburg.*
R. W. Bro. J. B. Carscallen, Proxy.

No. 313. *Clementi, Lakefield.*
W. Bro. James Edward, W. M.

No. 314. *Blair, Palmerston.*
V. W. Bro. H. Hyndman, Jr., P. M., Proxy ; R. W. Bro. H. Hyndman, Sr., P. M.

No. 315. *Clifford, Clifford.*
R. W. Bro. James S. Dewar, Proxy.

No 316. *Doric, Toronto.*
W. Bro. B. N. Davis, W. M. ; R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, V. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh, and W. Bros. W. McCarthy and W. G. Mutton, P. M's.

No. 318. *Wilmot, Baden.*
W. Bro. F. Holmes, P. M., Proxy.

No. 319. *Hiram, Hagersville.*
W. Bro. J. G. Carruthers, Proxy.

No. 320. *Chesterville, Chesterville.*
V. W. Bro. J. G Gillespie, P. M., Proxy.

No. 322. *North Star, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bro. Geo. Inglis, P. M,, Proxy, and W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, P. M.

No. 323. *Alvinston, Alvinston.*
R. W. Bro. D. Sinclair, P. M., Proxy.

No 324. *Temple, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. F. Walter, Proxy.

No. 326. *Zetland, Toronto.*
R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, P. M., Proxy ; W. Bros. Geo. Kappele and C. J. Hohl, P. M's.

No. 327 *The Hammond, Wardsville.*
W. Bro. J. T. McKillop, P. M., Proxy.

No. 328. *Ionic, Napier.*
R. W. Bro. Robert Scott, Proxy.

No. 330. *Corinthian, London East.*
W. Bro. J. B. Munro, W. M.

No. 332. *Stratford, Stratford.*
Bro. C. E. Nasmyth, J. W. ; R. W. Bro. J. A. Macfadden, P. M.

No. 336. *Highgate, Highgate.*
W. Bros. J. A. Walker, W. M., and D. P. McPhail, P. M.

No. 338. *Dufferin, Wellandport.*
W. Bro. S. Amsden, Proxy.

No. 339. *Orient, Toronto.*
W. Bro. Ira Bates, P. M.

No. 341. *Bruce, Tiverton.*
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Proxy.

No. 343. *Georgina, Toronto.*
W. Bro. A. L. Malone, W. M. ; Bro. A. B. Cordingley, J. W. ; R W. Bro. J. A. McGillivray and W. Bros. C. C. Whale and E. M. Donovan, P. M's.

No. 344. *Merrill, Dorchester.*
V. W. Bro. W. H. Chittick, P. M., Proxy.

No. 345. *Nilestown, Nilestown.*
W. Bro. W. C. Harris, Proxy.

No. 346. *The Occident, Toronto.*
W. Bros. F. Prince, W. M., and J. S. Williams, S. Reid and J. R. Dunn, P. M's.

No. 352. *Granite, Parry Sound.*
W. Bro. W. E. Foot, W. M.; V. W. Bros. Wm. McGowan and J. H. Knifton, P. M's.

No. 354. *Brock, Cannington.*
W. Bro. J. A. Kift, W. M.

No. 356. *River Park, Streetsville.*
W. Bro. James Miller, W. M.

No. 358. *Delaware Valley, Delaware.*
W. Bros. J. R. Hammond, W. M., and W. C. Harris, P. M.

No. 360. *Muskoka, Bracebridge.*
W. Bro. Richard Mills, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Isaac Huber and W. Bro. J. W. Bettes, P. M's.

No. 361. *Waverley, Guelph.*
Bro. F. B. Fenwick, S. W.

No. 367. *St. George, Toronto.*
W. Bro. F. Denton, W. M.; Bro. J. J. Thompson, S. W.; V. W. Bro. A. G. Horwood, and W. Bros. John Hetherington, L. B. Montgomery, W. J. Guy, W. Riddell and E. G. House, P. M's.

No. 368. *Salem, Brockville.*
V. W. Bro. N. B. Colcock, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. Rev. L. A. Betts, P. M.

No. 370. *Harmony, Delta.*
R. W. Bro. Rev. L. A. Betts, Proxy.

No. 371. *Prince of Wales, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. W. Borthwick, W. M.

No. 372. *Palmer, International Bridge.*
W. Bro. T. J. Wilbee, W. M., and R. W. Bro. A. B. Hurrell, P. M.

No. 374. *Keene, Keene.*
W. Bro. J. M. Shaw, P. M., Proxy; V. W. Bro. Jas. McNeil and W. Bro. W. J. Campbell, P. M's.

No. 376. *Unity, Huntsville.*
W. Bro. L. McKenny, P. M., Proxy.

No. 377. *Lorne, Shelburne.*
W. Bro. J. Clary, P. M.

No. 378. *King Solomon's, London West.*
W. Bro. A. B. Greer, Proxy.

No. 379. *Middlesex, Bryanston.*
W. Bro. R. Guest, Proxy.

No. 380. *Union, London.*
W. Bro. G. F. Morris, W. M.; Bro. W. C. Fitzgerald, S. W.; W. Bro. W. G. McMillan, P. M.

No. 382. *Doric, Hamilton.*
W. Bros. F. Walter, P. M., Proxy, and C. Kilgour, P. M.

No. 383. *Henderson, Winchester.*
W. Bro. George Johnson, W. M.

No. 384. *Alpha, Toronto.*
W. Bro. James Ingham, W. M.; Bro. J. W. St. John, S. W.;

V. W. Bro. E. J. Voss, and W. Bros. W. T. Barker, S.C. Hall, G. L. Lennox and Samuel Hobbs, P. M's.

No. 385. *Spry, Becton.*
W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews, P. M., Proxy.

No. 386. *McColl, West Lorne.*
W. Bro. F. J. McKillop, Proxy.

No. 387. *Lansdowne, Lansdowne.*
W. Bro. Rev. C. J. Young, P. M., Proxy.

No. 388. *Henderson, Ilderton.*
W. Bro. J. D. Dewar, Proxy.

No. 390. *Florence, Florence.*
R. W. Bro. J. B. Carscallen, Proxy.

No. 391. *Howard, Ridgetown.*
W. Bro. L. D. Parney, W. M.

No. 392. *Huron, Camlachie.*
W. Bro. Abner McIntyre, W. M.

No. 394. *King Solomon's, Thamesford.*
W. Bro. F. Patterson, P. M. Proxy.

No. 395. *Parvaim, Comber.*
W. Bro. A. J. Brown, P. M., Proxy.

No. 396. *Cedar, Wiarton.*
R. W. Bro. J. Walmsley, P. M., Proxy, and W. Bro. J. A. Campbell, P. M.

No. 397. *Leopold, Brigden*
R. W. Bro. Robt. Scott, Proxy.

No. 399. *Moffat, Harristtsville.*
W. Bro. J. W. Keesler, P. M. Proxy.

No. 401. *Craig, Deseronto*
W. Bros. G. W. Wright, P. M. Proxy, and H. A. Yeomans, P. M.

No. 402. *Central, Prescott.*
W. Bro. C. E. Naylor, W. M.

No. 403. *Windsor, Windsor.*
Bro. John Thomson, S. W.; R. W. Bros. J. E. D'Avignon and E. S. Wigle, and W. Bro. J. S. Edgar, P. M's.

No 404. *Lorne, Tamworth.*
W. Bro. G. H. Dean, W. M.

No. 406. *The Spry, Fenelon Falls.*
W. Bro. E. Fitzgerald, W. M.

No. 408. *Murray, Beaverton.*
R. W. Bro. R. E. Wood, Proxy.

No. 409. *Golden Rule, Gravenhurst.*
W. Bro. W. H. Brown, W. M.

No. 410. *Zeta, Toronto.*
W. Bro. G. T. Pendrith, W. M.; Bro. J. C. Gray, S. W.; V. W. Bro. C. F. Mansell and W. Bro. W. R. Cavell, P. M's.

No. 411. *Rodney, Rodney.*
W. Bro. J. B. Stinson, P. M., Proxy.

No. 412. *Keystone, Sault Ste. Marie.*
W. Bro. R. H. Knight, P. M., Proxy.

No. 413. *Naphtali, Tilbury.*
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.

No. 414. *Pequonga, Rat Portage.*
R. W. Bro. A. More, P. M., Proxy.

No. 416. *Lyn, Lyn.*
W. Bro. A. E. Cumming, P. M., Proxy.

No. 417. *Keewatin, Keewatin.*
R. W. Bro. A. More, Proxy.

No. 418. *Maxville, Maxville.*
Bro. A. P. Purvis, S. W.; V. W. Bro. S. Henry, P. M.

No. 419. *Bismarck, Point Edward.*
W. Bro. B. F. George, W. M.

No. 420. *Nipissing, North Bay.*
W. Bro. R. McKnight, W. M.

No. 421. *Scott, Grand Valley.*
W. Bro. G. H. Cooper, W. M.

No. 422. *Star of the East, Bothwell.*
W. Bro. W. R. Hickey, W. M.

No. 423. *Strong, Sundridge.*
W. Bro. B. Wickett, P. M.

No. 426. *Stanley, Toronto Junction.*
R. W. Bro. G. J. Bennett, Proxy.

No. 427. *Nickel, Sudbury.*
Bro. C. R. Reid, S. W.; W. Bro. W. H. Howey, P. M.

No. 428. *Fidelity, Port Perry.*
W. Bro. E. J. Wheeler, W. M.

No. 430. *Acacia, East Toronto.*
Bro. J. P. Wheeler, J. W.: W. Bros. M. P. McMaster and J. Richardson, P. M's.

No. 431. *Moravian, Eden Grove.*
W. Bro. Thomas Pinkerton, P. M.

No. 433. *Bonnechere, Eganville.*
R. W. Bro. A. Hood, Proxy.

No. 437. *Tuscan, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. F. B. Wilkinson, S W.

No. 438. *Harmony, Toronto.*
V. W. Bro. G. C. Patterson, W. M.; W. Bro. T. R. Barton, P. M.

The M. W. the Grand Master, granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last Annual Communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. D. Spry, and

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Fortieth Annual Communication, held in the City of Toronto, on the 17th and 18th days of July, A. D., 1895, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to subordinate lodges, the same be considered as read, and be now confirmed, and that the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following address to the brethren assembled in Grand Communication :—

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

Again we have come together from all parts of the jurisdiction for the purpose of holding in this historic City of Belleville the 41st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and I have much pleasure in extending to you, one and all, a most hearty and fraternal welcome. Though strictly business meetings, I have always felt that these annual gatherings were not only beneficial to the Craft in general, but both profitable and pleasant to the individual Masons who attend them. And nowhere, in my opinion, are such firm, lasting and loyal friendships formed, friendships based upon the soundest of all bases, mutual respect and brotherly love.

LEGISLATION.

Several motions of which notice have been given will probably come before you for your consideration and doubtless will be dealt with by you upon their merits. I can only recommend to you, as I did last year, that, where amendments to the constitution are proposed, you should be exceedingly careful not to disturb the existing order of things unless you are quite sure that you are going to get something very much better. Two years' experience as Grand Master has convinced me that, although our constitution is not absolutely perfect, yet, it is fairly workable and that great care should be exercised in amending it.

BY-LAWS.

I have had submitted for approval during the year and have read, examined and approved the full revised By-laws of 18 lodges and amendments to the By-laws of 23. There has been a marked improvement in the manner of submitting these By-laws to me and my labors have been somewhat lightened thereby Still, the careful perusal and examination of the By-laws of 41 lodges has furnished me with a reasonable amount of employment to fill up the intervals between my ordinary avocations.

CORNER STONES.

Special communications of Grand Lodge have been held during the past year for the laying of corner stones as follows : On 14th August, 1895, at Sarnia, for laying the corner stone of the General Hospital, a very beautiful and costly building, which, when completed, will be a credit to the citizens of

Sarnia. At Rockport, on 3rd June, 1896, for laying the corner stone of an Anglican Church, at which M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C., P. G. M., kindly officiated, I being unable to make train connections. At Glammis. on 26th June, 1896, for laying the corner stone of a Presbyterian Church, R. W. Bro. W. Gibson, M. P., D. G. M., officiating.

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES.

I have had an unusual number of petitions for dispensations for new lodges presented to me during the year and I have granted six and refused three. I refused petitions for new lodges at Wyoming, Burk's Falls and Creemore, as, in each case, I was satisfied the establishing of a new lodge would mean the practical destruction of existing lodges in the same locality.

DEDICATIONS.

During the year five new rooms have been dedicated for Masonic use: At Kingston, Sudbury, Renfrew, Huntsville and Alvinston. I must express my unqualified approval of those new lodge rooms I have seen, and of the enterprise and liberality displayed by the members of all these lodges in providing tasteful and convenient meeting places.

DISPENSATIONS.

An unusual number of dispensations have been granted for festivals and other purposes, no less than seventy-seven having been issued since last July—strong evidence that the Craft throughout the jurisdiction have been attending to both labor and refreshment.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts of Grand Lodge show a gratifying increase over any preceding year in our history. For the first time, I am informed, the receipts exceed $20,000, and the expenditure is lower than last year. A very gratifying condition of affairs indeed.

ALLOWANCE TO GRAND MASTER.

As I am about to resign the gavel into the hands of my successor and quit forever the high and important position which I have occupied during the past two years, I have no delicacy whatever in pointing out to you, for the benefit of my successors, that the present method of allowing the Grand Master his actual travelling expenses is in my opinion not only impracticable but wholly beneath the dignity of either Grand Master or Grand Lodge. My own experience has been that I have been wholly unable to keep track of my expenses, and I felt that it was not only impossible to do so, but humiliating per-

sonally to be asked to do so. I would recommend most strongly that Grand Lodge adopt one of two courses, either revert to the former system of granting the Grand Master an annual allowance of $500, or let him pay his own expenses. Do not put him to the humiliating necessity of making an entry every time he pays a 5 cent car fare.

GENERAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

I have much pleasure in calling your attention to the good work performed by the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada, with which this and many of the leading Grand Lodges of the continent are affiliated. By the system and methods adopted by this General Board great benefit has accrued to the Craft. The experience of the past eight years has shown that thousands of dollars have been saved by the jurisdictions of the continent affiliated in the Association and that the work has been so effective that the energies of the impostor and tramp Mason have not only been materially weakened, but the field of labor has been so surrounded with difficulties that many of them have gone into other pathways, where perhaps the opportunities of success are greater and the chances of detection less than under the lynx-eyed vigilance of the General Relief Association.

THE SO-CALLED GRAND LODGE OF ONTARIO.

I am very much pleased to be able to report to this Grand Lodge, that during the past year (pursuant to the authority granted at our last meeting), such arrangements have been made with the members of this organization as effectually sweep this body out of existence for I trust all time to come. Their charter (granted by the Provincial Government) has been transferred to myself and the Grand Secretary, as trustees for this Grand Lodge, all warrants issued to subordinate lodges, the seal and all other books and property of this so-called body, have been, or are being, delivered up and are now in possession of this Grand Lodge. All members of this so called grand body who have applied have been healed and declared their allegiance to this Grand Lodge. Many of them have applied for affiliation to our Lodges, and are now active and useful members of this Grand body. The surrender is voluntary and complete—the only concession granted being that members of the extinct body holding the rank of Past Master therein are conceded that rank in any of our lodges with which they may affiliate or to which they may be admitted.

I am sure every member of Grand Lodge will agree with me in congratulating the Grand Lodge of Canada upon the complete healing of this long-standing sore. It is peculiarly gratify-

ing to myself that it should have taken place during my term of office. I desire, however, to say most emphatically that the credit for the happy accomplishment of this very desirable result is mainly due to the arduous, able and untiring efforts of my predecessors in office, and that little remained for me to do but to reap the harvest they had sown. I cannot close my reference to this subject without expressing my high appreciation of the assistance I received in the settlement of this troublesome matter from the following brethren, viz.: W. Bro. Geo. C. Patterson, W. M. of Harmony Lodge, Toronto, and Bros. Barton and Cooper, the latter two having been members of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario. Indeed, it was largely owing to the patient, intelligent efforts and wise counsel of these brethren that the difficulty was so happily adjusted. I am also assured that Bros. Reith, Ramsay and Egan (former members of the so called Grand Lodge of Ontario) aided materially in bringing about the settlement. I most heartily recommend that this Grand Lodge should recognize in some appropriate manner the services of these brethren.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

I have, so far as time and circumstances would permit, visited every portion of the jurisdiction during my term of office, and everywhere have I found the same earnest, enthusiastic feeling animating the brethren. Truly I can say that love for the Craft and respect for the Grand Master seem to be distinguishing characteristics of the Masons belonging to this Grand Lodge. I had last winter the pleasure of being present at the dedication of the Masonic Temple in Montreal, an edifice well worthy, both in the building itself and its appointments, of the Masons of that metropolitan city. That I received a hearty, enthusiastic and fraternal reception goes without saying, and I shall never forget the right royal hospitality of the Grand Master, Col. Massey, and the Masons of the Province of Quebec.

RULINGS.

I am again able to state that I have had few questions submitted to me during the past year, much less than during that preceding. And I am inclined to think that the policy adopted by me and acted upon during my first year of office has had the effect intended and stopped the propounding of many useless Masonic conundrums.

OUR PROGRESS.

During the past year I have to report an increased interest in Masonic work, and generally a very gratifying condition of the Craft throughout the jurisdiction and a satisfactory increase

both in membership and in the number of new lodges. Peace and harmony are our watchwords, and so long as they reign among Canadian Masons, just so long will our progress be in every respect as satisfactory as during the past year.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

During the past year, upon my recommendation, the following brethren have been appointed representatives of foreign Grand Lodges near this Grand Lodge, viz. :

R. W. Bro. Arthur McGinnis for G. L. of Colorado.

V. W. Bro. James H. Flock for G. L. of Idaho.

R. W. Bro. John Hoodless for G. L. of North Carolina.

CLOSING OBSERVATIONS.

I have endeavored as briefly as possible to put before you the record of the past year and have aimed at making my address a business document addressed to and to be dealt with by a body of business men. I must confess, however, that I cannot close this address and lay down the gavel without expressing the hope that my occupancy of the chair I am now leaving has been of some benefit to the Craft, as it has been a source of great pride and pleasure to me. When I look back over the past two years and reflect that, as the presiding officer of such a large and intelligent body of men as those composing the Grand Lodge of Canada, I have been able to discharge the many duties of that office, without, in so far as I am aware, forfeiting the esteem and friendship of any of those with whom I have been brought into contact, I feel I have been exceptionally fortunate, and that I can now hand over the gavel to my worthy successor, conscious that I have, to some extent at least, justified the confidence of those who two years ago placed me in the proud position of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada. To the officers who have assisted me during the past year I return my sincere thanks. Indeed I have no words to express my appreciation of the unswerving loyalty shown by every Grand Lodge officer towards myself, and I feel that whatever success I have had as Grand Master has been owing in a great measure to the hearty support I have on all occasions received. I thank you, brethren, one and all, for your unfailing kindness and courtesy towards me, and I resign the gavel to my successor, who, I know, is well worthy of the love and confidence of this Grand Lodge.

W. R. WHITE,
Grand Master.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. W. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved,—That the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. Sir and Brethren,

I beg to present to Grand Lodge my Annual Report containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year and the expenditures made, with return of subordinate lodges as at 24th June, 1896, and ledger balances at 31st May, 1896, together with, by instruction of the M. W. the Grand Master, a record of the Especial Communications summoned, dispensations issued, by-laws and amendments thereto approved, Grand Representatives appointed, and other official acts of the M. W. the Grand Master.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts and expenditure from 1st June, 1895, to the 31st May, 1896, have been as follows :

RECEIPTS.	
Certificates	$ 2,519 00
Dues	11,616 00
Fees	1,412 00
Dispensations	230 00
Constitutions	356 75
Warrants	70 00
Commutations of annual dues	150 00
Past Masters' Certificates	10 00
Asylum Fund Interest	434 00
General Fund Interest	3,184 67
Miscellaneous	232 75
Carried Forward	$20,215 17

EXPENDITURE.	
Grand Secretary's salary	$ 1,600 00
Grand Secretary's assistant's salary	800 00
Grand Treasurer's salary	200 00
Stenographer's salary	300 00
Rent of Grand Secretary's office to 31st March, 1896	87 50
Grand Secretary, balance for incidentals to 31st May, 1895	114 50
Grand Secretary, advance for incidentals to 31st May, 1896	500 00
Expenses Board of General Purposes	718 60
Rent of Massey Hall and sundry expenses meeting of Grand Lodge	221 75
Committee on Foreign Correspondence	100 00
The "Telegram" stereotype plates	25 00
R. Duncan & Co., binding, etc	15 60
Copp, Clark & Co., printing certificates, etc	500 00
Spectator Printing Co. on account of printing	1,184 82
Chairman Benevolent Committee, postage, etc	15 00
R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, expenses benevolent investigation	395 90
M. W. Bro. W. R. White on acc't of travelling expenses	200 00
J. Eastwood & Co., stationery	50 98
Expenses commission re Moore Lodge investigation	15 00
Premium on Grand Secretary's bond	50 00
Carried forward	$ 7,094 65

Brought Forward... ..$20,215 17	*Brought forward*..... $ 7,094 65
	Insurance on Grand Lodge regalia..... 17 50
	Masonic Relief Association, United States and Canada..... 112 65
	Orders on Fund of Benevolence 8,523 00
$20,215 17	$15,747 80

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

By direction of the M. W. the Grand Master, Especial Communications of Grand Lodge were called as follows:

On the 14th August, 1895, at the town of Sarnia, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the General Hospital, M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., Grand Master, officiating.

On the 3rd June, 1896, at the village of Rockport, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Church of the Redeemer (Anglican), M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C., P. G. M., officiating.

On the 26th June, 1896, at the village of Glammis, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a Presbyterian Church, R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, D. G. M., officiating.

DEDICATIONS.

By instruction from the M. W. the Grand Master, the halls of the following lodges have been dedicated for Craft purposes since the last Annual Communication:

The Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, and Minden Lodge, No. 253, Kingston, on the 25th September, 1895.

Nickel Lodge, No. 427, Sudbury, on the 12th February, 1896.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew, on the 27th February, 1896.

Unity Lodge, No. 376, Huntsville, on the 11th March, 1896.

Alvinston Lodge, No. 323, Alvinston, on the 28th April, 1896.

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.

The following dispensations for new lodges have been issued:

August, 16th, 1895, Havelock, Havelock, Ontario District No. 12.

September 11th, 1895, Burns, Hepworth, North Huron District No. 5.

September 17th, 1895, Tuscan, Sarnia, St. Clair District No. 2.

October 5th, 1895, Harmony, Toronto, Toronto District No. 11.

April 21st, 1896, Alexandria, Alexandria, St. Lawrence District No. 15.

July 11th, 1896, Algonquin, Minden, Ontario District No. 12.

WARRANT SURRENDERED.

The Warrant of Spartan Lodge, No. 176, Sparta, was surrendered on the 20th June, 1896.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Arthur McGinnis, of Belleville, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, in place of R. W. Bro. F. J. Menet, deceased.

V. W. Bro. J. H. Flock, Q. C., of London, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Idaho, in place of M. W. Bro. James Moffat, deceased.

R. W. Bro. John Hoodless, of Hamilton, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in place of R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, deceased.

On the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of California, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed M. W. Bro. James Baunty Stevens, of Napa, our Representative near that Grand Lodge, in place of M. W. Bro. William C. Belcher, deceased.

On the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Idaho, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. Nathan Falk, of Boise City, our Representative near that Grand Lodge, in place of R. W. Bro. B. M. Davis, disqualified.

On the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Maine, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed R. W. Bro. Sumner J. Chadbourne, of Augusta, our Representative near that Grand Lodge, in place of M. W. Bro. David Cargill, deceased.

On the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of North Carolina, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. W. H. Summerell, of Winston, our Representative near that Grand Lodge, in place of M. W. Bro. George W. Blount, deceased.

On the recommendation of the M. W. the Grand Master of Virginia, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. the Rev. Hartley Carmichael, M. A., of Richmond, our

Representative near that Grand Lodge, in place of R. W. Bro. the Rev. George W. Dame, D. D., deceased.

LODGE BY-LAWS.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed the By-laws of the followng lodges :

July 10th, 1895.....	Lorne Lodge,	No. 377, Shelburne.
July 26th, 1895.....	Dalhousie Lodge,	" 52, Ottawa.
Sept. 12th, 1895	Bernard Lodge,	" 225, Listowel.
Oct. 2nd, 1895.....	Algonquin Lodge,	" 434, Emsdale.
Oct. 28th, 1895	Wilson Lodge,	" 86, Toronto.
Nov. 1st, 1895	The Tuscan Lodge,	" 195, London.
Nov. 4th, 1895.....	Robertson Lodge,	" 292, King.
Nov. 5th, 1895.....	Renfrew Lodge,	" 122, Renfrew.
Nov. 27th, 1895.....	Bonnechere Lodge,	" 433, Eganville.
Dec. 10th, 1895	Ashlar Lodge,	" 247, Toronto.
March 6th, 1896	Kerr Lodge,	" 230, Barrie.
March 17th, 1896	Mount Zion Lodge,	" 28, Kemptville.
March 31st, 1896	Union Lodge,	" 380, London.
April 3rd, 1896	Cedar Lodge	" 396, Wiarton.
April 18th, 1896.....	True Britons' Lodge,	" 14, Perth.
May 20th, 1896	Irvine Lodge,	" 203, Elora.
June 24th, 1896.....	Pequonga Lodge,	" 414, Rat Portage.
June 28th, 1896.....	Scotland Lodge,	" 193, Scotland.

The M. W. the Grand Master has examined, revised and confirmed amendments to the By-laws of the following lodges :

August 20th, 1895....	Georgina Lodge,	No. 343, Toronto.
August 20th, 1895 ...	Victoria Lodge,	" 398, Victoria Road.
November 7th, 1895..	Dalhousie Lodge,	" 52, Ottawa.
November 15th, 1895.	Prince Edward Lodge,	" 18, Picton.
November 16th. 1895.	Palmer Lodge,	" 372, Victoria.
November 27th, 1895.	York Lodge,	" 156, North Toronto.
November 27th, 1895.	Rehoboam Lodge,	" 65, Toronto.
November 30th, 1895.	Wellington Lodge,	" 46, Chatham.
December 12th, 1895	St. John's Lodge,	" 35, Cayuga.
December 19th, 1895.	The Grand River Lodge,	" 151, Berlin.
January 6th, 1896....	Mattawa Lodge,	" 405, Mattawa.
February 10th, 1896..	Civil Service Lodge,	" 148, Ottawa.
February 14th, 1896..	Stanley Lodge,	" 426, Toronto Junc.
March 6th, 1896	Zetland Lodge,	" 326, Toronto.
April 3rd, 1896	Salem Lodge,	" 368, Brockville.
April 13th, 1896	Colborne Lodge,	" 91, Colborne.
April 23rd, 1896.....	Tecumseh Lodge,	" 144, Stratford.
April 27th, 1896	Blackwood Lodge,	" 311, Woodbridge.
May 20th, 1896	Washington Lodge,	" 260, Petrolia.
May 23rd, 1896	Clifton Lodge,	" 254, Niagara Falls.
May 26th, 1896.....	Craig Lodge,	" 401, Deseronto.
July 11th, 1896	Acacia Lodge,	" 430, East Toronto.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued, by instruction of the M W. the Grand Master, the following dispensations:

Date.	No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Where Held.	For What Granted.
Aug. 7, 1895..	278	Mystic	Roslin	To Elect and Install Officers.
June 22, " ..	258	Guelph	Guelph	" Change day of Regular Meeting.
Aug. 24, " ..	361	Waverley	"	" Change day of Regular Meeting.
Sept. 11, " ..	295	Conestogo	Drayton	" Attend Divine Service.
" 24, " .	200	St. Alban's	Mount Forest	" Install Officers.
Oct. 19, " .	406	The Spry	Fenelon Falls	" Elect Officers.
" 22, " ..	108	Blenheim	Princeton	" Attend Divine Service.
Nov. 6, " ..	352	Granite	Parry Sound	" Elect Officers.
" 7, " ..	11	Moira	Belleville	" Elect Officers.
" 13, " ..	6	The Barton	Hamilton	" Attend Divine Service.
" 13, " ..	6	"	"	" Attend Reception of G. M.
" 18, " ..	38	Trent	Trenton	" Elect Officers.
" 18, " ..	165	Burlington	Burlington	" Elect Officers.
" 29, " ..	121	Doric	Brantford	" Attend Divine Service.
" 29, " ..	140	Malahide	Aylmer	" Elect Officers.
" 30, " ..	263	Forest	Forest	" Elect and Install Officers.
" 30, " ..	56	Victoria	Sarnia	" Elect Officers.
Dec. 3, " ..	74	St. James'	Maitland	" Initiate out of Jurisdiction.
" 4, " ..	121	Doric	Brantford	" Attend Divine Service.
" 4, " ..	247	Ashlar	Toronto	" Change day of Regular Meeting.
" 4, " ..	18	Prince Edward	Picton	" Elect and Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS.—*Continued.*

Date.	No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Where Held.	For What Granted.
Dec. 6, 1895	222	Marmora	Marmora	To Elect Officers.
" 6, "	289	Doric	Lobo	" Attend Supper and Ball.
" 9, "	256	Farran's Point	Farran's Point	" Install Officers.
" 9, "	216	Harris	Orangeville	" Elect Officers.
" 11, "	105	St. Mark's	Niagara Falls, So	" Install Officers.
" 13, "	397	Leopold	Brigden	" Elect Officers.
" 14, "	125	Cornwall	Cornwall	" Attend Ball.
" 17, "	232	Cameron	Dutton	" Elect Officers.
" 19, "	425	St. Clair	Port Lambton	" Elect Officers.
" 26, "	24	St. Francis	Smith's Falls	" Attend an At Home.
" 28, "	166	Wentworth	Stony Creek	" Install Officers.
" 30, "	228	Prince Arthur	Odessa	" Install Officers.
" 31, "	243	St. George	St. George	" Install Officers.
Jan. 2, 1896	319	Hiram	Hagersville	" Install Officers.
" 3, "	346	The Occident	Toronto	" Attend an At Home.
" 6, "	424	Doric	Pickering	" Install Officers.
" 10, "	325	Orono	Orono	" Install Officers.
" 11, "	106	Burford	Burford	" Install Officers.
" 15, "	90	Manito	Collingwood	" Attend an At Home.
" 16, "	209*a*	St. John's	London	" Attend an At Home.
" 21, "	384	Alpha	Toronto	" Attend an At Home.
" 22, "	113	Wilson	Waterford	" Install Officers.
" 23, "	390	Florence	Florence	" Install Officers.
" 27, "	153	Burns	Wyoming	" Install Officers.
" 27, "	425	St. Clair	Port Lambton	" Install Officers.

DISPENSATIONS.—*Continued.*

Date.	No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Where Held.	For What Granted.
Jan. 30, 1896..	354	Brock	Cannington	To Attend Ball.
Feb. 3, " ..	306	Durham	Durham	" Attend an At Home.
" 4, " ..	224	Zurich	Hensall	" Install Officers.
" 6, " ..	260	Washington	Petrolea	" Confer the Third Degree.
" 14, " .	294	Moore	Courtright	" Attend Supper and Ball.
" 20, " .	65	Rehoboam	Toronto	" Attend Re-Union.
" 20, " .	326	Zetland	"	" Open Lodge at 6.30 instead of 7.30.
" 21, " ..	376	Unity	Huntsville	" Open Lodge in Afternoon.
" 25, " ..	343	Georgina	Toronto	" Attend an At Home.
Mar. 7, " ..	345	Nilestown	Nilestown	" Attend an At Home.
" 16, " ..	364	Dufferin	Melbourne	" Install Officers.
" 17, " ..	326	Zetland	Toronto	" Open Lodge in Afternoon.
May 5, " ..	287	Shuniah	Port Arthur	" Install Officers.
" 13, " ..	186	Plantagenet	Plantagenet	" Elect Officers.
" 18, " ..	82	St. John's	Paris	" Elect Officers.
" 20, " ..	395	Conestogo	Drayton	" Install Officers.
" 21, " ..	17	St. John's	Cobourg	" Elect Officers.
" 29, "	243	Georgina	Toronto	" Install Officers.
June 1, " ..	398	Victoria	Victoria Road	" Elect Officers.
" 1, " .	333	Prince Arthur	Flesherton	" Elect Officers.
" 8, " ..	416	Lyn	Lyn	" Elect Officers.
" 12, " ..	15	St. George's	St. Catharines	" Elect and Install Officers.
" 15, " ..	325	Orono	Orono	" Attend Divine Service.
" 15, " ..	235	Aldworth	Paisley	" Attend Divine Service.
" 17, " ..	129	Rising Sun	Aurora	" Attend Divine Service.

DISPENSATIONS.—*Continued.*

Date.	No. of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Where Held.	For What Granted.
June 22, 1896	6	The Barton	Hamilton	To Confer Degrees.
" 24, "	235	Aldworth	Paisley	" Attend Decoration.
" 25, "	287	Shuniah	Port Arthur	" Attend Divine Service.
" 25, "	47	Great Western	Windsor	" Attend Divine Service.
" 26, "	90	Manito	Collingwood	" Attend Divine Service.
" 29, "	285	Seven Star	Alliston	" Elect and Install Officers.
July 2, "	327	The Hammond	Wardsville	" Install Officers.
" 10, "	196	Madawaska	Arnprior	" Attend Decoration.

Fraternally submitted,

J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

Hamilton, July 11th, 1896.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:—

I herewith submit a Statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of Grand Lodge, for the year ending 31st May, 1896.

The Balance at the credit of Current Account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce at 3rd June, 1895, was		$11,575 01
During the year I have received from the Grand Secretary the following sums, viz:		
On account of General Fund (excluding $10,000 of the London Loan Co., Debentures paid)		19,781 17
On account of Asylum Fund		434 00
		$31,790 18
The Expenditure (exclusive of $10,000 received fron London Loan Co. and *re* invested in Debentures of the British Canadian Loan and Investment Co.) for general purposes during the year was	$7,280 80	
For Benevolence	8,523 00	
Further investment in a Debenture of the British Canadian Loan and Investment Co., Ltd.	5,000 00	
		20,803 80
Balance in Bank 3rd June, 1896		$10,986 38

The debentures are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping.

The attached balance sheet shows the amount at the credit of the General Fund and the Asylum Fund respectively, on the 31st May, 1896, and the sums invested in the respective Companies and the rate of interest.

STATEMENT—GENERAL FUND.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Canada, in account with HUGH MURRAY, *Grand Treasurer.*

DISBURSEMENTS.

1895.				
July	31	— Paid	Grand Secretary salary to date	$ 400 00
"	31	— "	Assistant to Grand Secretary salary to date	200 00
"	31	— "	Stenographer for Grand Secretary salary to date	75 00
"	31	— "	Grand Treasurer, salary to date	50 00
"	31	— "	M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, for Foreign Correspondence Report	100 00
"	31	— "	Expenses Board of General Purposes	718 60
"	31	— "	The Evening Telegram, Toronto, for Stereotype Plates	25 00
"	31	— "	Robert Duncan & Co., for binding, etc	15 60
"	31	— "	Copp, Clark & Co., for printing Certificates	500 00
"	31	— "	Spectator Printing Co., balance of account to 12th June, 1895	184 82
"	31	— "	Grand Secretary, balance of incidentals	114 50
"	31	— "	" " advance for "	500 00
"	31	— "	Rent of Massey Music Hall during Grand Lodge	150 00
"	31	— "	Grand Secretary, printing and other expenses Grand Lodge	71 75
"	31	— "	R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, postage Benevolent Committee	15 00
"	31	— "	R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, on account Benevolent investigation	20 00
Aug.	31	— "	M. W. Bro. W. R. White, travelling expenses	200 00
"	31	— "	J. Eastwood & Co., for stationery	50 98
"	31	— "	R. W. Bro. W. J. Ward, expenses investigation re Moore Lodge	15 00
"	31	— "	Premium on Grand Secretary's Guarantee Bond	50 00
Oct.	31	— "	Grand Treasurer, salary to date	50 00
"	31	— "	Grand Secretary, salary to date	400 00
"	31	— "	Assistant to Grand Secretary, salary to date	200 00
"	31	— "	Stenographer for Grand Secretary, salary to date	75 00
Nov.	30	— "	R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, on account Benevolent Investigation	200 00
"	30	— "	Spectator Printing Co., on account printing	1,000 00
Dec.	31	— "	R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, on account Benevolent Investigation	100 00

1896.			
Jan. 30	Paid	Grand Secretary, salary to date	400 00
" 31	"	Assistant to " " "	200 00
Jan. 31	"	Stenographer to G. Sec'y, salary to date	75 00
" 32	"	Masonic Hall Association, rent to 31st of March, 1896	87 50
Feb. 28	"	Grand Treasurer, salary to date	50 00
" 28	"	R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, balance of account Benevolent Investigation	75 90
Apl. 31	"	Grand Secretary, salary to date	400 00
" 31	"	Assistant to " "	200 00
" 31	"	Grand Treasurer, " "	50 00
" 31	"	Stenographer's, " "	75 00
" 31	"	Insurance on Grand Lodge Regalia	17 50
May 31	"	General Masonic Relief Association, annual subscription	112 65
" 31	"	Benevolent Orders as per list	8,523 00
" 31	"	Balance as per Balance Sheet	76,564 63
			$92,312.43

1895. RECEIPTS.

May 31	By	Balance as per Balance Sheet	$72,531 26
July 24	"	Grand Secretary	5,000 00
Aug. 6	"	Grand Secretary, interest on London Co. Debentures	100 82
Nov. 28	"	Grand Secretary, int. on bank account	129 11
Dec. 31	"	Grand Secretary	2,000 00
1896.			
Jan. 31	"	Grand Secretary	2,500 00
May 31	"	Grand Secretary	2,500 00
May 31	"	Grand Secretary, int. on bank account	40 74
June 1	"	Grand Secretary	7,366 00
June 3	"	Grand Secretary	144 50
			$92312 43

STATEMENT—ASYLUM FUND.

1895.			
May 31	By	balance as per balance sheet	$14,043 75
1896.			
May 31	By	Grand Secretary, interest on investment	434 00
			$14,477 75

1895.				
May 31	To	Stadacona Chapter, Province of Quebec— Refund Asylum fund	$20 00	
1896.				
May 31	To	Harington Chapter, Province of Quebec— Refund Asylum fund	36 00	
				56 00
				$14,421 75

GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st MAY, 1896.

DEBENTURES:		General Fund	$76,564 63
The British Canadian Loan and Ins. Co., 4¼%	$15,000 00	Asylum Fund	14,421 75
Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co., 4¼%	15,000 00		
Western Canada Loan & Savings Co., 4½%	10,000 00		
Canada Permanent Loan Co., 4½%	10,000 00		
Landed Banking & Loan Co., 4¾%	10 000 00		
" " " " " 4½%	5,000 00		
Ontario Loan & Debenture Co., 4½%	5,000 00		
Canada Savings & Loan Co., 4¼%	5,000 00		
Owen Sound, Grey & Bruce Loan Co., 5%	5,000 00		
	$80,0000 0		
CURRENT ACCOUNT:			
Balance in Bank of Commerce	$10,986 38		
	$90,986 38		$90,986 38

We certify that the debentures named and set forth in the above Balance Sheet are in the custody of the Bank for safe keeping, and that of the above mentioned balance, $10,841.88 was at the credit of the current account of the Grand Lodge at the close of business on the 1st June, 1896, and $144.50 was subsequently deposited.

(Signed) WM. ROBERTS, *Manager*,
D. MACGILLIVRAY, *Accountant*,
Canadian Bank of Commerce.

PAYMENTS BY THE GRAND TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF BENEVOLENCE.

June. 1895.

30	Bro. E. Green	$25 00
30	Mrs. D. McLellan	10 00

July.

31	Mrs. W. M. Wilson	37 50
31	Miss Mary Wilson	75 00
31	Miss Mary M. Harris	18 75

August.

31	Mrs. William Leaney	10 00
31	B. of R., Hamilton	50 00
31	B. of R., London	25 00
31	B. of R., Ottawa	12 50
31	B. of R., Windsor	10 00
31	Mrs. S. McCullough	10 00
31	Mrs. John A. McInnes	10 00
31	Mrs. Richard Taylor	5 00
31	Mrs. L. G. Chocquette	10 00
31	Bro. Edward McNally	20 00
31	Maud, daughter of F. Covell	7 50
31	Bertha, daughter of F. Covell	7 50
31	Mrs. A. H. McPherson	10 00
31	Mrs. Geo. Godfrey	15 00
31	Mrs. John Jackson	10 00
31	Mrs. William Coulter	10 00
31	Mrs. J. A. Angell	20 00
31	Daughter of R. H. Lee	10 00
31	Daughter of Chas. A. Clark	10 00
31	Mrs. W. A. Harvey	10 00
31	Mrs. Peter Patterson	10 00
31	Mrs. William Sharp	10 00
31	Mrs. Peter Spence	15 00
31	Mrs. John Kennedy	10 00
31	Mrs. Jas. H. Wright	10 00
31	Bro. Thos. H. Butler	25 00
31	Bro. Edmund Hill	25 00
31	Mrs. David Ross	15 00
31	Mrs. Fred W. Cooke	15 00
31	Bro. A. C. Coombes	25 00
31	Mrs. J. K. Oliver	10 00
31	Mrs. W. J. Arneil	20 00
31	B. of R. Kingston	25 00
31	Mrs. Henry L. Kifner	10 00
31	Mrs. W. M. McCadde	10 00
31	Mrs. Thomas Elliott	10 00
31	Mrs. Thomas G. Wescott	15 00
31	Mrs. Thomas G. Shaw	10 00

Aug. 1895.

31	Mrs. Thos. McC. Lawrence	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. J. Smyth	10 00
31	Mrs. G. L. Eddleston	10 00
31	Bro. J. C. Williams	25 00
31	Mrs. George B. Grey	10 00
31	Mrs. George Christie	10 00
31	Mrs. Patrick Barrette	10 00
31	Mrs. Jocob Le Clear	10 00
31	Mrs. L. G. Jolliffe	10 00
31	Mrs. J. L. Young	10 00
31	Mrs. John Evans	15 00
31	Bro. Ed. J. Houghton	20 00
31	Mrs. John Pigott	15 00
31	Mrs. Alfr'd Goldsmith	15 00
31	Mrs. Thos. Brock	10 00
31	Bro. James Smith	25 00
31	Mrs. McKee Conklin	15 00
31	Mrs. Archd. Graham	15 00
31	Mrs. Wm. N. Hunter	20 00
31	Children of Philip Varney	15 00
31	Mrs. Jas. McKillican	20 00
31	Mrs. Alex. Miller	20 00
31	Mrs. Alex. J. Short	20 00
31	Mrs. James Woodrow	10 00
31	Mrs. John Thompson	10 00
31	Daughter Wm. Kerr	10 00
31	Mrs. William Mills	20 00
31	Mrs. John Vaux	10 00
31	Mrs. T. D. Harington	20 00
31	Mrs. William Corner	10 00
31	Mrs. S. M. Phoenix	15 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Wakefield	20 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Jolley	10 00
31	Mother of John McKee	20 00
31	Mrs. John Manning	15 00
31	Mrs. Geo. T. Porter	15 00
31	Mrs. Andrew A. Graham	10 00
31	Mrs. Joseph Middleton	10 00
31	Mrs. Sam'l Stevenson	10 00
31	Mrs. Alex. R. Paul	20 00
31	Mrs. S. Porter	10 00
31	Mrs. R. Phillips	15 00
31	Mrs. Geo. R. Young	10 00
31	Mrs. I. T. Gurnett	20 00
31	Mrs. Joshua Parker	15 00
31	Mrs. John McKenzie	10 00
31	Mrs. I. R. L. Smith	15 00

Aug.	1895.	
31	Mrs. Robt. A. Sinclair	10 00
31	Mrs. Walter Francis.	10 00
31	Mrs. Geo. W. Shields.	10 00
31	Mrs. I. G. Burns.....	15 00
31	Bro. Fred Devereux..	25 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Hoskins...	10 00
31	Bro. Chas. W. Wilmott	25 00
31	Mrs. Edw. A. Martin	15 00
31	Mrs. Henry Hall.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Marriott..	10 00
31	Mrs. Jas. M. Conroy..	20 00
31	Mrs. Thos. J- Vesey..	15 00
31	Mrs. Sam'l V. Perry..	20 00
31	Mrs. Adam Petrie....	10 00
31	Mrs. W. Holmwood ..	20 00
31	Mrs. John Harvey ...	15 00
31	Mrs. D. C. Cameron..	20 00
31	Bro. Jas. W. Crate ...	25 00
31	Mrs. Jas. McGibbeny.	10 00
30	Mrs. William Johnson.	10 00
30	Mrs. Thos. W. Clegg..	10 00
30	Mrs. Anthony Davy..	15 00
30	Bro. Arch. Couper....	20 00
30	Mrs. Samuel Waltho..	15 00
30	Mrs. M. F. Haney....	15 00
30	Mrs. George Grant...	10 00
30	Orphans Malcolm McPhail	10 00
30	Mrs. D. L. Comius...	10 00
30	Mrs. Thomas S. Agar.	10 00
30	Mrs. Isaac L. Strowger	15 00
30	Mrs. Robert Dunlop..	10 00
30	Mrs. Wm. McBurnie.	20 00
30	Mrs. Chas. W. Noble..	20 00
30	Mrs. George Goslee...	5 00
30	Mrs. John Hodgson...	20 00
30	Mrs. Stephen Townsend	15 00
30	Mother I. B. Cummins	15 00
30	Bro. C. R. Barker....	25 00
30	Bro. John R. Farquharson	25 00
30	Bro. John Munroe....	25 00
30	Mrs. William Hill....	10 00
30	Mrs. Thos. J. Johnson	20 00
30	Mrs. Chas. Graham..	15 00
30	Mrs. Joseph Chantler.	10 00
30	Mrs. Richard Flood..	20 00
30	Mrs. Arthur Lloyd...	20 00
30	Mrs. R. Ratcliffe.....	15 00
30	Orphans Steph. Smith	20 00
30	Bro. Phylander Meyers	20 00
30	Mrs. Macneil Clark...	10 00
30	Mrs. John Wright....	10 00
30	Mrs. Andrew Milne...	15 00
30	Mrs. James H. Hixon	15 00

Aug.	1895.	
30	Bro. James Bowman.	25 00
30	Mrs. W. F. Livingston	5 00
30	Mrs. W. C. Jewell....	10 00
30	Orphans John R. Steele	20 00
30	Mrs. Robert Gibson..	10 00
30	Mrs. Robert Davis...	20 00
30	Mrs. I. B. Richards..	20 00
30	Mrs. M. Vosberg	10 00
30	Bro. W. A. McLim...	25 00
30	Bro. John Scott.....	25 00
30	Bro. Robt. E. Harrison	15 00
30	Mrs. Walter McKay..	10 00
30	Mrs. Jas. Hortop	10 00
30	Bro. R. Houghton ...	25 00
30	Mrs. E. W. King.....	20 00
30	Orphan R. J. McAuslan	15 00
30	Bro. John Dixon.....	25 00
30	Mrs. John Wills	20 00
30	Mrs. D. G. Huff	15 00
30	Bro. Russell S. Warner	25 00
30	Bro. Finlay McEdward	25 00
30	Bro J. C. Woods	25 00
30	Mrs. Robert Hassard.	20 00
30	Bro. F. R. Wood.....	15 00
30	Mrs. William Wilson.	15 00
30	Mrs. James Miller ...	15 00
30	David Bridgeford....	15 00
30	Bro. H. Newton	25 00
30	Bro. James Blackburn	25 00
30	Bro. James Sullivan .	25 00
30	Mrs. John J. Field....	15 00
30	Mrs. Robert Young...	10 00
30	Bro. John Chasely...	25 00
30	Mrs. Edwin Amsden.	10 00
30	Mrs. Robert Marcus..	10 00
30	Orphans J. G. Crowell	10 00
30	Bro. John Polley.....	25 00
30	Mrs. S. M. Davis	40 00
30	B. of R., Kingston ...	10 00
30	B. of R. Stratford ...	25 00
30	Mrs. James Fitten...	10 00
30	Mrs. R. A. Kirby	10 00
30	Mrs. W. H. Matthews	10 00
30	Mrs. Chas. Hess	10 00
30	Mrs. Francis Elkington	10 00
30	Mrs. John Munroe...	10 00
30	Mrs. S. H. Blondheim	15 00
30	Mrs. Wm. Johnston..	20 00
30	Mrs. Thos. G. Hurst.	10 00
30	Mrs. James Greenfield	10 00
30	Mrs. David Robertson	10 00
30	Mrs. James Rodgers..	5 00
30	Mrs. Thos. Lester....	5 00
30	Mrs. John Weir.....	10 00

Sept.	1895.	
30	Mrs. W. H. Street....	10 00
30	Mrs. Wm. Crawford..	10 00
30	Mrs. Peter Grant	10 00
30	Mrs. Alf. Hill.....	10 00
30	Bro. Edward Green..	25 00
30	Mrs. Thomas Reid...	10 00
30	Mrs. Henry Kerrison.	20 00
30	Mrs. Robert Coffer...	10 00
30	Mrs. Robert Carey...	10 00
30	Mrs. Jno. McEachren	10 00
30	Mrs. Erastus Kester..	15 00
30	Mrs. Hy. Richardson.	10 00
30	Mrs. Chas. Bennett..	20 00
30	Mrs. Joseph Metherell	10 00
30	Mrs. J. G. Jorgensen.	20 00
30	Mrs. Wm. Wilkinson.	20 00
30	Mrs. J. C. Bogart	10 00
30	Mrs. James Allan....	10 00
30	Mrs. William Leary ..	10 00
30	Orphan of J. A. Blott.	5 00
30	Mrs. M. G. Vanderwort	10 00
30	Mrs. P. R. Davey....	15 00
30	Mrs. M Cronin	20 00
30	Mrs. J. A. Preston ...	10 00
30	Mrs. T. P. Davis.....	10 00
30	Mrs. John Rome	10 00
30	Mrs. John McDonald.	20 00
30	Mrs. Sam'l Latimer..	20 00
30	Bro. Alex. Bain.....	25 00
30	Mrs. J. C. Hollister ..	10 00
30	Bro. Ira C. Warner ..	25 00
30	Mrs. William Scott ..	10 00
30	Bro. Elmer J. Halladay.....	15 00
30	Mrs. A. A. Ross.....	20 00
30	Mrs. J. Zimmerman .	10 00
30	Mrs. Peter F. LeRoy.	5 00
30	Mrs. Robt. C. Carter.	15 00
30	Mrs. Elisha Sanders .	15 00
30	Mrs. Thos. Courtney.	20 00
30	Mrs. A. A. Munroe...	10 00
30	Mrs. Angus Kerr	10 00
30	Bro. H. A. Wetherall.	25 00
30	Mrs. N. H. Smith....	15 00
30	Mrs. Robert Smith...	10 00
30	Mrs. A. Bowman	20 00
30	Bro. John Morgan ...	25 00
30	Bro. Hugh McGregor.	15 00
30	Mrs. William Ramsay.	20 00
30	Mrs. John J. Dinsmore	15 00
30	W. F. Jennings.....	15 00
30	Geo. Sutton	10 00
30	Bro. E. N. B. Millard.	40 00
October.		
31	B. of L. Barrie	25 00
Oct.	1895.	
31	Orphans Thos. Palmer	20 00
31	Orphans Jas. Erskine.	5 00
31	Mrs. Thos. Armson ..	10 00
31	Bro. L. W. Whitney .	25 00
31	Mrs. W. E. Johnson .	10 00
31	Mrs. Fred. Bailey....	15 00
31	James Hagerman	10 00
31	Mrs Ronald Campbell	15 00
31	Mrs. James Allen....	10 00
31	Orphans Angus Campbell	5 00
31	Mrs. Geo. H. Rowed..	10 00
31	Bro. Peter Brown....	25 00
31	Bro. J. C. Davidson..	25 00
31	Mrs. Waddington....	15 00
31	Mrs. W. M. Wilson...	37 50
31	Miss Mary Wilson...	75 00
31	Miss Mary M. Harris.	18 75
31	Mrs Wm. Sweeney..	10 00
November.		
30	Mrs. Chas. S. Lloyd .	15 00
30	To reimburse Bro. R. M. Simpson.....	18 00
30	Mrs. W. B. Simpson..	100 00
December.		
31	Orphans John Leitch.	15 00
31	Mrs. W. W. Tuttle...	10 00
January.	1896.	
31	Mrs. John Pattison...	10 00
31	Mrs. W. M. Wilson...	37 50
31	Miss Mary Wilson....	75 00
31	Miss Mary M. Harris..	18 75
31	Bro. Edward Green..	25 00
31	Mrs. Walt. Hollinwood	20 00
31	B. of R., Hamilton...	50 00
31	B. of R., Windsor ...	10 00
31	Mrs. Saml McCullough	10 00
31	Mrs. J. A. McInnes...	10 00
31	Mrs. Geo. Godfrey...	15 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Coulter....	10 00
31	Daughter of Charles A. Clark.....	10 00
31	Mrs. W. A. Harvey..	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Sharp.....	10 00
31	Mrs. John Kennedy..	10 00
31	Bro. Thos. H. Butler.	25 00
31	Mrs. David Ross.....	15 00
31	Mrs. Charles Hess....	10 00
31	Mrs. John Oliver.....	10 00
31	Bro. J. C. Williams..	25 00
31	Bro. James Smith....	25 00
31	Mrs. William N. Hunter.....	20 00
31	Mrs. Alex. Millar	20 00
31	Mrs. John Thompson.	10 00
31	Mrs. S. M. Phoenix ..	15 00

Jan.	1896.	
31	Mrs. William Jolley..	10 00
31	Mrs. John Manning..	15 00
31	Mrs. Geo. Taylor Porter....	15 00
31	Mrs. Andrew A. Graham	10 00
31	Mrs. Alex. R. Paul...	20 00
31	Mrs. Geo. R. Young..	10 00
31	Mrs. J. T. Gassett....	20 00
31	Mrs. Joshua Parker ..	15 00
31	Mrs. John McKenzie .	10 00
31	Mrs. J. R. L. Smith..	15 00
31	Mrs. Geo. H. Shield .	10 00
31	Mrs. William Hoskins	10 00
31	Bro. Chas. H. Wilmot	25 00
31	Mrs. Edward A. Martin.....	15 00
31	Bro. W. A. McLun ..	25 00
31	Mrs. Jos. Wetherall .	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Wilkinson.	20 00
31	Bro. James W. Crate	25 00
31	Mrs. C. W. Noble	20 00
31	Mrs. Arthur Lloyd...	20 00
31	Mrs. R. Radcliffe	15 00
31	Mrs. John Rome.....	10 00
31	Bro. Ira Warner.....	25 00
31	Bro. John Scott.....	25 00
31	Mrs. D. G. Huff	15 00
31	Mrs. James Allen....	10 00
31	Bro. T. R. Wood.....	15 00
31	Mrs. Robt. Marcus...	10 00
February.		
28	Orphans John Dean..	25 00
28	Mrs. Albert Stairs ...	20 00
28	Maude, orphan of Francis Corell.....	7 50
28	Bertha, orphan of Francis Corell.....	7 50
28	Mrs. John Jackson...	10 00
28	Mrs. R. A. Kirby	$10 00
28	Mrs. Fred. W. Cooke.	15 00
28	Mrs. S. Porter.....	10 00
28	Mrs. R. Phillips	15 00
28	Mrs. Henry Hall.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Albert Stairs ...	20 00
28	Mrs. Robt. Dunlop...	10 00
28	Bro. C. R. Barker....	25 00
28	Bro. Phylander Meyers.....	20 00
28	Mrs. John Wills	20 00
28	Bro. Russell S. Warrer.....	25 00
28	Bro. James Sullivan.	25 00
28	Board Relief, Barrie .	25 00
28	Bro. Edward McNally	20 00
28	Mrs. James Fitton...	10 00

Feb.	1896.	
28	Mrs J. A. Angell.....	20 00
28	Daughter R. N. Lee..	10 00
28	Bro. Edmond Hill ...	25 00
28	Bro. A. C. Coombs...	25 00
28	Mrs. John Munro....	10 00
28	Mrs. William Johnson	20 00
28	Mrs. Thos. G. Hurst.	10 00
28	Mrs. W. J. Armel ...	20 00
28	Orphans Thos. Palmer	20 00
28	Mrs. Walter Francis.	10 00
28	Mrs. Jas. M. Conroy.	20 00
28	Mrs. Sam'l N. Perry.	20 00
28	Bro. Jas. Blackburn .	25 00
28	Mrs. William J. Smyth	10 00
28	Mrs. T. D. Harington	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. Wakefield.	20 00
28	Mrs. Robert Carey...	10 00
28	Bro. Arch. Cooper .	20 00
28	Mrs. Isaac L. Stronger	15 00
28	Bro. John Munro....	25 00
28	Mrs. Robert Gibson..	10 00
28	Mrs. Robert Davis...	20 00
28	Mrs. James Hortop ..	10 00
28	Bro. J. C. Woods .. .	25 00
28	Mrs. N. H. Smith ...	15 00
28	Bro. J. C. Davidson..	25 00
28	Mrs. James Rodgers..	5 00
28	Children Phillip Harney	15 00
28	Mrs. Jas. Woodrow..	10 00
28	Mrs. William Mills ..	20 00
28	Mrs. Joseph Middleton	10 00
28	Mrs. Henry Richardson	10 00
28	Mrs. Chas. Bennett ..	20 00
28	Mrs. Anthony Davy..	15 00
28	Mrs. Samuel Waltho.	15 00
28	Orphan Jas. A. Blott.	5 00
28	Mrs. Dennis Counin..	10 00
28	Mrs. Thos. S. Agar...	10 00
28	Mrs. Andrew Milne ..	15 00
28	Mrs. Jas. A. Hixon ..	15 00
28	Mrs. M. Vosberg.....	10 00
28	Bro. John Dixon.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Thos. Courtney.	20 00
28	Mrs. John J. Field...	15 00
28	Mrs. Rich. Taylor....	5 00
28	Mrs. A. H. McPherson	10 00
28	Mrs. Arch. Graham..	15 00
28	Mrs. William Corner.	10 00
28	Mrs. Thos. J. Vesey..	15 00
28	Mrs. M. F. Haney ...	15 00
28	Mrs. Thos. J. Johnson	20 00
28	Mrs. Richard Flood..	20 00

Feb.	1896.	
28	Mrs. Robert C. Crate.	15 00
28	Mrs. David Bridgeford	15 00
28	Mrs. Wm. Ramsay...	20 00
28	Mrs. McKee Conklin.	15 00
28	Mrs. Saml. Stevenson	10 00
28	Bro. Elmer J. Halladay	15 00
28	Mrs. Robt. E. Harison	15 00
28	Mrs. Walter McKay..	10 00
28	Mrs. A. A. Ross.....	20 00
28	Mrs. James Miller ...	15 00
28	Bro. H. A. Wetherell.	25 00
28	B. of R. Ottawa	12 50
28	Mrs. W. H. Matthews	10 00
28	Mrs. John Vaux	10 00
28	Bro. Fred'k Devereux	25 00
28	Mrs. Erastus Kester..	15 00
28	Mrs. W. C. Jewell....	10 00
28	Mrs. John F. Dinsmore	15 00
28	Mrs. Edwin Amsden .	10 00
28	Mrs. Peter Patterson.	10 00
28	Mrs. James Greenfield	10 00
28	Mrs. Thos. G. Wescott	15 00
28	Mrs. George Christie.	10 00
28	Mrs. John Harvey ...	15 00
28	Orphans Step'n Smith	20 00
28	Bro. Robt. R. Houghton	25 00
28	Mrs. Adam Petrie....	10 00
28	Bro. Alex. Bain	25 00
28	Mrs. Elisha Sanders .	15 00
28	Orphans J. G. Crowell	10 00
28	Mrs. L. G. Jolliffe....	10 00
28	Mrs. John Evans	15 00
28	Mrs. Alf. Goldsmith .	15 00
28	Mrs. J. C. Bogart	10 00
28	Mrs. James Allan	10 00
28	Mrs. M. G. Vanderwort	10 00
28	Mrs. Jacob LeClair .	10 00
28	Bro. John R. Farquharson	25 00
28	Mrs. Geo. Walker....	15 00
28	Bro. James Bowman.	25 00
28	Mrs. Robt. A. Sinclair	10 00
28	Mrs. William Marriott	10 00
28	Mrs. Chas. Graham..	15 00
28	Mrs. Joe Chantler ...	10 00
28	Mrs. Robt. Young ...	10 00
28	Mrs. Waddingham...	15 00
28	Mrs. E. W. King.....	20 00
28	Mrs. Alfred Hill	10 00
28	Mrs. Jas. McKillican.	20 00
28	Mrs. Alex. J. Short ..	20 00
28	Mrs. William McCadden	10 00
28	Mrs. Thomas McG. Lawrence	10 00
28	Mrs. John Weir.....	10 00
28	Mrs. Peter Grant	10 00
28	Mother of John McKee	20 00
28	Mrs. McNeil Clark...	10 00
28	Orphans R. J. McAustin	15 00
28	Mrs. Angus Kerr... .	10 00
28	B. of R. London.....	25 00
28	Mrs. Jas. McGibbeny	10 00
28	Bro. Joshua Chaselay	25 00
28	Mrs. Thomas Armson	10 00
28	Mrs. John Wright ...	10 00
28	Mrs. Robt. Hassard .	20 00
28	Mrs. William Wilson.	15 00
28	Mrs. Aaron Bowman.	20 00
28	Mrs. Thomas Elliott.	10 00
28	Mrs. Thomas G. Shaw	10 00
28	Mrs. J. L. Young	10 00
28	Mrs. Wm. Crawford..	10 00
28	Mrs. Thomas Brook..	10 00
28	Mrs. Ronald Campbell	15 00
28	Mrs. David Robertson	10 00
28	Mrs. G. L. Eddlestone	10 00
28	Mrs. Geo. Sutton.....	10 00
28	Mrs. L. G. Choquette.	10 00
28	Bro. L. W. Whitney..	25 00
28	Mrs. Henry L. Kifner	10 00
28	Mrs. T. Lester.....	5 00
28	Mrs. Geo. Goslee.....	5 00
28	Mrs. John Pigott	15 00
28	Mrs. John Hodgson..	20 00
28	Orphans John Leitch.	15 00
28	Mother J. B. Cummins	15 00
28	Mrs. J. B. Richards..	20 00
28	Mrs. Wm. Sweeney...	10 00
28	Mrs. Steph. Townsend	15 00
28	Mrs. Jno. McDonald.	20 00
28	Bro. Findlay McEdward	25 00
28	Bro. John Polley.....	25 00
March.		
31	Orphan Jno. R. Steele.	20 00
31	Mrs. J. Hollister	10 00
31	Mrs. W. W. Tuttle ..	10 00
31	Mrs. Jas. H. Wright..	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Scott.....	10 00
31	Mrs. Wm. McBurney.	20 00
31	Mrs. Samuel Lattimer	20 00
31	Mrs. Jno. Zimmerman	10 00
31	Mrs. Alfred S. Lloyd..	15 00
31	Mrs. Wm. Johnson...	10 00
31	Bro. John Morgan...	25 00
31	Mrs. M. Cronin.....	20 00
31	B. of R., Stratford...	25 00

Mar.	1896.	
31	Orphan Angus Campbell	5 00
31	Mrs. W. H. Street	10 00
31	Mrs. Francis Elkington	10 00
April.		
31	Mrs. P. R. Davy	15 00
31	B. of R., Kingston	10 00
31	Mrs. W. T. Livingstone	5 00
31	Mrs. Fred. Bailey	15 00
31	Mrs. Robert Smith	10 00
31	Mrs. Jno. McEachren	10 00
31	Mrs. W. E. Johnson	10 00
31	Bro. Peter Brown	25 00
31	Mrs. Jas. Hagerman	10 00
31	Mrs. Peter F. LeRoy	5 00
31	Mrs. Thos. W. Clegg	10 00
31	Mrs. Thomas G. Furnivall	10 00
31	Mrs. Isaac Morris	20 00
31	Mrs. George Walker	15 00
31	Mrs. Leslie Wright	20 00
31	Mrs. Jas. A. Malcolm.	10 00
April.	1896.	
31	Mrs. Thos. Stafford	10 00
31	Mrs. Henry Kerrison	20 00
31	Mrs. Mary Coffer	10 00
31	Mrs. J. G. Burns	15 00
31	Bro. H. Newton	25 00
31	Mrs. W. M. Wilson	37 50
31	Miss Mary M. Harris.	18 75
31	Miss Mary Wilson	75 00
31	Mrs. Peter Spence	15 00
31	Mrs. Leslie Wright	20 00
31	Mrs. Jas. A. Malcolm.	10 00
31	Mrs. Thos. Stafford	10 00
31	Mrs. Thos. G. Furnivall	10 00
31	Mrs. Isaac Morris	20 00
May		
31	Mrs. Hugh McGregor.	15 00
31	Mrs. George B. Grey.	10 00
31	Orphans Jas. Erskine.	5 00
31	Orphans Malcolm McPhail	10 00
	Total	$8,523 00

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved,—That the Reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received, considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting the annual report of the condition of Masonry in this district, you will readily perceive how difficult it is to obtain accurate information as to the work that is being done by the various lodges during the very cursory visits which I

have been compelled to make. Every D. D. G. M. must be somewhat embarrassed by the thought that in describing even in the most general way the work done by each of the lodges visited, he may not in every case be able to do exact justice. I sincerely trust I may be able, notwithstanding these considerations, to give with some degree of accuracy, a general idea of the position of our beloved order in this district.

I began my official visits by attending Pnyx Lodge, No. 312, Wallaceburg, on December 27th, 1895. During the evening the officers were installed. This lodge is in good standing, and I spent a most enjoyable time while visiting them.

Wellington Lodge, No. 46, Chatham: Visited 17th February, 1896. This lodge has young and energetic officers who are enthusiastic Masons, and therefore, thoroughly well up in the work. They seem determined to make their lodge a success.

No. 402, Central Lodge, Essex: I saw the second degree worked by this lodge on the 26th February, 1896, and can only say that each officer performed his part well.

Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor: Visited on the 12th March, 1896. The first degree was worked in an excellent manner. What especially attracted my attention was the fact that each officer seemed to thoroughly understand his duties, and one cannot complain in any way of incompetence on the part of individual officers.

All that has been said of the work of this lodge applies with equal justice to that of Windsor Lodge, No. 403, Windsor, which I visited on the 13th March, 1896. During my visit I had the pleasure of witnessing the exemplification of the third degree and cannot speak too highly in praise of what I saw. In fact I had never before, nor have since, seen the work done with such ease and grace. Every officer did his work in such a way as to silence criticism.

No. 282, Lorne Lodge, Glencoe: I visited this lodge on the 13th May and found the brethren in a lodge room, which, while very comfortable and well equipped, was much too small. This lodge has been burned out three times during the last four years, and in the face of these reverses one cannot but admire the enthusiasm of these brethren as Masons. Their work is always creditably done. I was accompanied on this visit by some brethren of McColl Lodge, of West Lorne, and after the lodge had closed we were most hospitably entertained at a restaurant by the members of No. 282.

No. 422, Star of the East, Bothwell: I held a lodge of instruction here on 18th March, 1896. The attendance was large and a most enjoyable time was spent. The first degree

was worked by the members of Lorne Lodge, of Glencoe; the second by Wellington Lodge, of Chatham, and the third by the local lodge. Each of these lodges did its work so well that one cannot make any distinction and comment is unnecessary.

No. 391, Howard Lodge, Ridgetown: Visited 23rd March, 1896. This lodge is in a most prosperous condition: they have a membership of 74 and are having plenty of work, which they perform with skill.

No. 395, Parvaim Lodge, Comber: I visited this lodge on the 1st of April. The lodge was raised or opened in the three degrees. I then gave some instructions, which were concurred in by the officers and members. After the lodge was closed we were invited to a sumptuous repast, which was prepared in capital style. I should like to visit Parvaim Lodge again under similar circumstances.

No. 41, St. George, Kingsville, April 2nd, 1896: The officers of this lodge are all of recent appointment, and besides are young men. I had the pleasure of witnessing an exemplification of the work of the First Degree, and the manner in which the work was done bespeaks a prosperous future for masonry in Kingsville. As is to be expected, where there is so much vitality and where so much interest is taken by the young men, the finances of this lodge are in good shape.

The 3rd of April, 1896, found me with the brethren of Leamington Lodge, No. 290, Leamington. I met all new officers, but I can only say that their work was done in a way that would have reflected credit on more experienced men.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245, Thamesville, was reached on the 21st April, 1896. The attendance was large. The brethren had intended working the third degree, but, owing to illness, the candidate was unable to attend. I saw the lodge raised and closed, and everything was done in a becoming manner.

I visited Rodney Lodge, No. 411, Rodney, on 23rd April, 1896. I saw the lodge raised and closed, and the work was done satisfactorily.

The evening of April 24th was spent with Highgate Lodge, No. 336, Highgate. There were a large number of persons present. The lodge was raised and closed in the three degrees, and a spirit of genuine Masonic enthusiasm seemed to prevail.

No. 274, Kent Lodge, Blenheim. This lodge was visited, by request, on the 27th of April. Some slight difference had arisen regarding an "at home" that had been held, but I am

happy to say that the matter was adjusted in an amicable way, and this lodge will doubtless continue to prosper. The Blenheim brethren are ardent Masons.

On May 16th, 1896, I attended Parthenon Lodge, No. 247, Chatham. As there was no work the lodge was merely raised and closed. The officers exhibit great interest in their work, and my fraternal visit here was exceedingly pleasant.

I found No. 386, McColl Lodge, West Lorne, in first-class working order. After the lodge was closed we were invited to the Partridge House, where a very enjoyable hour was spent. A number of the Rodney brethren accompanied me on this visit.

Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden; This is my mother lodge. I was present on the 14th May and saw the W. M. work the second degree. He did his work well, and was ably supported by his officers. After the lodge was closed we were invited to Bro. McWha's restaurant, where every one appeared to enjoy himself.

I met Florence Lodge, No. 390, Florence, on May 21st. This lodge is and has been a little weak. I believe, however, that the crisis is past. They are getting in some new blood, and will, I think, soon be in a prosperous condition. I enjoyed my visit here very much, and feel confident that my successor will derive even greater satisfaction from the contemplation of the increased prosperity of this lodge.

On 26th May I reached Tilbury Centre, where I visited Naphtali Lodge, No 413. Work was done in the first degree. The brethren of Tilbury Centre seem to have caught the true spirit of Masonry.

No. 34, old Thistle Lodge, Amherstburg, being visited 27th May, 1896, the lodge was simply opened and closed, the officers acquitting themselves creditably.

I regret very much that I was unable to meet the brethren of Hammond Lodge, No 327, Wardsville. I twice made arrangements to visit them, but on both occasions was unfortunately obliged to cancel the engagement.

This concludes my account of the official visits made during the year. From what I have written you will see that the year has been one of almost uniform prosperity. This by no means implies stagnation or even mediocrity, but, on the contrary, a study of the situation will show that there has been steady advancement all along the line. If my predecessor could have accompanied me on my several visits, I am sure he would have been pleased with the result of the work he did and the instructions he gave. Everywhere I have observed a love for Masonry, earnest endeavors to master her tenets, and a dis-

position to conserve all that is best and noblest in our beloved order. I believe that in order to inspire real loyalty to our Craft, it is of great importance that all work should be done with as much acccuracy and perfection of detail as possible. I have therefore striven, as far as I was able, to lay stress on the work of individual officers and members, in order that each may attain the highest possible proficiency. One thing you must have noticed from the report which I have had the honor to present, viz. : that there has been a prevalent spirit of harmony, and an almost total absence of those unhappy bickerings which, though perhaps unimportant in themselves, yet so frequently sow the seeds of disruption and disintegration, and eventualiy lead to the destruction of fraternal societies.

I need say nothing as to the position of our district, either financially or numerically. The appended statement will, it is hoped, furnish all necessary information as to these matters.

During the year I have granted the following dispensations to attend divine service : Parvaim Lodge, Comber ; Kent Lodge, No. 274, Blenheim ; Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, Dresden ; Parthenon Lodge, No. 247, Chatham ; Leamington Lodge, No. 290, Leamington.

In conclusion I should indeed be ungrateful if I did not acknowledge with feelings of the most sincere gratitude the very cordial and courteous treatment which has been extended to me by the officers and members of the order in every portion of the district. In reflecting on these meetings I am more than ever impressed with the part which the principle of brotherhood plays in our society. This thought more than anything else, has rendered the performance of duty a real enjoyment.

My earnest wish for Erie District is that it may continue to prosper.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

James B. Carscallen, D. D. G. M.,
Erie District, No. 1.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Erie District, No. 1, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership: Total No. of all Mem.	Membership: Increase during year	Membership: Decrease during year.	Degrees conf'r'd: E. A.	Degrees conf'r'd: F. C.	Degrees conf'r'd: M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held: Regular.	Meetings held: Emergent.	Meetings held: Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearges.	Date of last G. L Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
391	Howard...	Ridgetown	72	6	...	5	5	4	1	...	2	...	...	...	12	1	13	16	$15 00	27	$131 00	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	$ 200 00
274	Kent	Blenheim	65	6	2	4	3	2	...	2	1	...	...	1	13	4	17	20	20 00	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
422	St of the East	Bothwell	27	5	...	4	5	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	5	16	12	... ...	3	39 50	July 1, '95...	Good.	Good.	Yes	210 00
336	Highgate ...	Highgate	46	2	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	13	23	...	8	40 00	June 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
386	McColl.....	West Lorne.....	42	4	...	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	4	17	15	25 00	10	75 00	June 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
46	Wellington	Chatham	117	8	4	8	5	5	...	2	4	8	...	2	13	10	23	19	25 85	37	£25 50	May 6, '96...	Good.	Good.	Yes	1400 00
267	Parthenon.	Chatham	51	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	13	1	14	25	.....	17	88 80	Dec. 27, '95	Good.	Good	Yes	500 00
390	Florence	Florence	27	2	...	1	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	7	1	8	8	10 00	10	37 00	June 24, '96	Good.	Good	Yes	200 00
395	Parvain	Comber	39	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	4	17	20	.....	15	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
413	Naphtali ...	Tilbury.....	56	4	...	5	3	2	...	1	2	...	...	...	12	2	14	15	..	....	.....	June 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
47	Gt. West'rn	Windsor	128	18	2	14	15	14	2	2	...	...	1	2	13	23	36	30	56 66	48	265 35	June 24, '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	360 00
255	Sydenham.	Dresden..	49	3	...	2	3	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	12	1	13	18	25 00	4	56 00	Dec. 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
245	Tecumseh..	Thamesville....	52	1	4	1	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	2	14	5	19	20	... ...	9	59 00	Feb. 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
403	Windsor.....	Windsor	97	9	9	11	8	2	...	2	4	...	...	1	13	20	33	23	67 00	10	48 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
327	The Hammond	Wardsville.....	24	1	4	2	4	4	...	...	...	2	...	2	8	6	14	9	.....	7	35 00	July 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	No.	500 00
31	Thistle	Amherstburg...	38	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	2	12	14	.....	....	....	July 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	....
41	St. George's	Kingsville	85	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	12	13	.....	....	... ...	July 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
282	Lorne.....	Glencoe..	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	8	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	.....
290	Leamingt'n	Leamington.....	76	2	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	1	14	17	...	.	.....	Dec., '95....	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
312	Pnyx	Wallaceburg....	80	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	11	19	25 00	27	25 00	Dec. '95... ...	Good.	Good.	Yes	250 00
402	Central	Essex.....	58	3	...	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	13	16	.....	20	.....	Dec. '95... .	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
411	Rodney	Rodney.....	35	1	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	12	14	.....	16	20 00	Dec., '95.....	Good.	Good.	No.	200 00

ST CLAIR DISTRICT No. 2.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren,

As required by the constitution I have the honor to submit for your consideration a report of my proceedings and the condition of Masonry in St. Clair District No. 2.

The district contains 19 warranted lodges and one U. D., all of which I have officially visited once ; some of them twice. With one exception I visited them all on their regular nights of meeting. I am pleased to report the uniformity of the work throughout the district, all the lodges working in accordance with the authorized work of G. L.

The following is a record of my official visits and acts for the past year.

My first official act was the appointment of R. W. Bro. Sinclair as District Secretary. I hereby express my thanks for his assistance. I also appointed Bro. the Rev. Wm. Smythe District Chaplain, and I am pleased to report that whenever occasion presented itself he was ever ready to attend to all matters pertaining to the moral progress and prosperity of the Craft in the district.

Forest Lodge, No. 263, Forest: Made my first official visit to this lodge on Oct. 2nd, W. Bro. Boddy, W. M., in the east ; officers all present. The lodge was well represented by P M's., amongst them P. M. Sutherland and W. Bro McLean, W. M. of Cassia Lodge, 116, Thedford ; P. M. E. G. Scott of Washington Lodge, 260, Petrolia. A candidate was duly initiated, the work being done correctly and effectively, and the Wardens and assistant officers doing their part very satisfactorily. This lodge has been noted for doing good work in the past and I am pleased to report the present staff still maintain the past reputation. Bro. Campbell is Secretary and keeps a neat set of books. Members present, 22 ; visitors, 10.

Arkona Lodge, 307, Arkona : Visited this lodge at their regular meeting on Oct. 3rd, accompanied by W. Bro. Scott, of Washington Lodge, 260, Petrolia. W. M. and officers present. Opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees ; opening and closing done in such a manner that I feel confident they are well up in their work. Many points in connection with the work were discussed ; a few questions asked and answers given. W. Bros. Thoman and Hooper keep a watch-

ful care over this lodge, and with their assistance success to 307 is assured. Bro. Thoman, Jr., is Secretary and is a credit to the lodge. Dues well collected, only three members over one year in arrear. Members present, 21 ; visitors, 3. After lodge closed refreshments were partaken of and a very pleasant evening spent. W. Bro. Thoman and officers exemplified the third degree at a lodge of instruction held at Wyoming in such a correct and faultless manner that no questions were asked.

Huron Lodge, No. 392, Camlachie : Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Sinclair, P. D. D G M, and W. Bros. Smith and Stinson and others of Petrolia Lodge, I paid my official visit to Huron Lodge on October 30th. The W. M. and officers all present. A candidate was passed to the second degree. The W. M. was very nervous, but did the work fairly well. Wardens well up in their work. Assistant officers very good. I had occasion to point out a few corrections. The lodge was opened in the third degree, when many points in connection with the work were discussed and a few questions asked and answers given. W. Bro. Trusler is secretary and looks well after the dues, only two members over one year in arrear. Members present, twenty-two ; visitors, eight. I again visited this lodge on December 27th, and, with the assistance of W. Bros. Kennedy, Trusler, Cairns and Anderson, installed the officers for the ensuing year. I feel satisfied Huron Lodge has elected a good staff of officers.

St. John's Lodge, No. 81, Mt. Brydges : On November 26th I officially visited this lodge, this being their annual election of officers, and a good attendance of members being present. This lodge is fortunate in the possession of a most painstaking Master in the person of W. Bro. Dr. Rice. The W. M. and officers were present and the lodge was opened in the three degrees. A candidate was expected for the third degree, but not being on hand a brother volunteered as a candidate. The W. M. and officers exemplified the work, which was correct, the W. M. and officers all doing well. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. W. Bro. Betts is a good secretary and is the right man in the right place. Dues well collected. Prospects of this lodge good, as they own the building and rent a store below. Little if any debt upon the building. Dues are only $2 per year. W. Bros. Sawyer and Young are members of this lodge and take a great interest in its welfare. They have my best wishes. Members present, twenty-four ; visitors, eight. Will always have a kind remembrance of my visit to St. John's, 81.

Leopold Lodge, 397, Brigden : Officially visited this lodge Nov. 27th. Received a fraternal welcome and had the

pleasure of meeting my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Ward. A good attendance of members and visitors, amongst them W. Bros. Leslie, Watson and Stockdale, of Moore Lodge, and Findlay and Roebuck, of St. Clair Lodge. W. M. and officers present. Lodge opened in the three degrees. Work, a raising; W. M. not feeling well, W. Bro. Leacock took the chair, and with the assistance of the officers of the lodge raised a candidate to the third degree. W. Bro. Leacock proved himself an able exemplifier of the work; wardens and assistant officers equally good; candidate well posted, answering each and every question promptly and correctly. R. W. Bro. Ward is Secretary and his books will invite inspection. Members present, 25; visitors, 15. After the lodge closed a banquet was given at the Commercial Hotel, where a pleasant time was spent. My visit to Leopold Lodge will be remembered with pleasure.

Bismarck Lodge, 419, Pt. Edward: On January 13th, visited this lodge officially. W. M. and officers present, and a good attendance of members and visitors. Work a raising. The W. M. and officers opened the lodge in the three degrees and raised a candidate to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The W. M. is an able exemplifier of the work. Wardens well up in the duties pertaining to their chairs. Assistant officers in need of practice. Bro. Phelps is a good Secretary. Books well kept and dues fairly well paid up. The brethren of Bismarck Lodge are very entertaining and make it very pleasant for visitors. Members present, 24; visitors, 12.

Havelock Lodge, 238, Watford: Visited this lodge January 26th, an emergency meeting called for the purpose of my visit. I was accompanied by Bro. Stalker of Petrolia Lodge, 194. W. Bro. Saunders, W. M. in the east, all the officers present. I was pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Newell, P. D. D. G. M. of St. Clair District, and a very enthusiastic gathering of members. The W. M. and officers of the lodge opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. Opening and closing correctly done. There being no work a brother volunteered as a candidate and the W. M. and his able staff of officers exemplified the first degree. The W. M. proved himself to be a correct worker. Wardens well up in every duty pertaining to their office. Assistant officers equally well up in their duties. We then converted the lodge into a lodge of instruction. Many points pertaining to the work were discussed and a few questions asked and answers given. W. Bro. Collins makes a very efficient Secretary. Books correctly kept. Members present, 24; visitors, 3. After lodge closed, adjournment to the Baker

House where a well prepared supper awaited us The W. M. and officers exemplified the first degree at a lodge of instruction held in Burns Lodge, Wyoming, when the work was done in a faultless manner.

Cassia Lodge, 116, Thedford: Visited this lodge at their regular meeting January 27th. W. M. and officers all present. As there was no work to be done W. Bro. Sutherland took the chair, and with the assistance of the officers of the lodge exemplified the first and second degrees. W. Bro. Sutherland is a correct worker and an able exemplifier of the work. Worshipful Bro. Morrison, with the assistance of the officers of the lodge, exemplified the third degree. This being the W. M's first attempt, the work was creditably done. The Wardens are amongst the best in the district; assistant officers equally good. Cassia Lodge is to be congratulated on her efficient staff of officers, and judging from those who are travelling towards the east Cassia lodge is assured of success. This is the home of R. W. Bro. Holwell, P.D.D.G M., the veteran Mason of Cassia Lodge, and great credit is due to him for the interest he takes in keeping this lodge to the front. Brother Poole is a painstaking Secretary; books neatly kept and dues well collected, only two members being twelve months in arrears. I trust many of the Secretaries in St. Clair district will copy his example. Members and visitors, 28.

St. Clair Lodge, 425, Sombra: On January 28th officially visited this lodge, which has not been prosperous for some time, chiefly owing to its location. I granted a dispensation for its removal from Port Lambton to Sombra Village, beautifully situated on the banks of the St. Clair River, this being the first night of meeting in their new lodge room. I was surprised to find such commodious and convenient rooms, and a large gathering of members and visitors. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Batey, D D. G. M., of Richmond, Virginia, accompanied by about twenty brethren from the United States, who walked over on the ice from Marine City. Nothing could exceed the kindness extended to me, the W. M. and W. Bro. Findlay taking particular pains to make me feel at home. W. M. and Wardens present. J. D. and I. G. absent. Two candidates were balloted for and accepted. Two petitions were received, and it was understood that others were expected. I feel confident this lodge will prosper in its present location. The W M. and officers initiated two candidates, and considering that they had not done any work for some time they did remarkably well. With the assistance of W. Bros. Cowan, Findlay, Roebuck and Watson I installed the officers for the ensuing year. About forty members and

visitors present. My best wishes are with the brethren of St. Clair Lodge, and I sincerely wish them prosperity in their new location.

Moore Lodge, 294, Courtright: Visited this lodge on January 30, when I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Ward, P. D. D. G. M W. M. and officers present. A candidate passed to the second degree. Work very creditably done. The lodge was then opened in the third degree. W. Bro. Leslie took the chair and raised a candidate. He is an able exemplifier of the work. It is pleasing to find this lodge prospering, as about two years ago it was practically dead. Since its removal from Mooretown to Courtright it has shown signs of new life and vigor, which I trust as years roll on will continue to increase. Great credit is due to W. Bros Leslie, Watson, Stockdale, Brown and a few others in keeping the lodge alive. Their efforts have been crowned with success. On behalf of the lodge I had the pleasure of presenting W. Bro. Leslie with a watch and a kindly worded address to mark the esteem in which he is held. Brother Leslie has done good service in the lodge. Brother Brown, Past Secretary, was the recipient of a handsome pipe and case. Twenty-four members and sixteen visitors present.

Beaver Lodge, No. 83, Strathroy: Officially visited this lodge January 31st. Was met at the station by R. W. Bro. J. P. Whitehead, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Taylor, the W. M. of Beaver Lodge, who extended to me a hearty welcome. I had only given the Secretary three or four days notice of my intended visit, but found a large gathering of members and visitors present, amongst them being R. W. Bro. Lindsay, P. D. D. G. M., of London District, and several other Past Masters. W. M. and officers all present. This was the first meeting with the new officers in the chairs. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a candidate raised.

The W. M. proved himself a correct and skilful worker, and is second to none in the District. Wardens perfect. Assistant officers equally well up in their work. Candidate well instructed. Beaver Lodge may well feel proud of the officers. This is one of the best lodges in St. Clair District. R. W. Bro. Whitehead, P. D. D. G. M., is a member of this lodge and one of the best Masons I ever had the pleasure of meeting. He is highly respected and esteemed by the brethren throughout the District. Bro. Richardson is Secretary; books neatly kept. Present, 52. A grand banquet was given at one of the hotels, where a pleasant time was spent. My visit to Beaver Lodge will have a bright spot in my memory.

Victoria Lodge, 56, Sarnia: On February 25th I officially

visited this lodge, a good attendance of members and visitors being present. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Clark, Grand Lecturer for the State of Michigan, with a number of P. M.'s from the lodges in Port Huron. W. M. and officers present. Work, three initiations; W. Bro. Johnson, W. M., initiated the first, W. Bro. McKenzie the second and W. Bro. B. F. George, W. M., of Bismarck Lodge, 419, the third, assisted by W. Bro. Wood. The work was done in a very creditable manner by the presiding officers, wardens and subordinate officers. Victoria Lodge is presided over by a very zealous Mason, who has done a great deal in working it up to its present prosperous condition, and with the assistance he receives from W. Bros. Wood, McKenzie and Samis, Victoria Lodge is sure to prosper. Bro. Coulter makes a good Secretary, but outstanding dues are large. I trust the Secretary will see to collecting them. Members present, 28; visitors, 24.

Alvinston Lodge, 323, Alvinston: I paid my official visit to this lodge on February 26. The W. M. being indisposed could not attend. Wardens and I. G. absent. Past Master Sinclair in the east. Wardens' chairs filled by Past Masters. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a candidate raised. Work correct. I was a little disappointed in not seeing the officers confer the degree, but was told that the W. M. can work the three degrees. The lodge has greatly improved during the past year, new members coming in The lodge-room is very inviting and nicely furnished. Bro. Branan is Secretary and keeps a neat set of books. Members present, twenty-four; visitors, eight. On April 28th I had the honor of representing the Most Worshipful the Grand Master in dedicating their new lodge-room, and was ably assisted by the Past Masters of Alvinston and surrounding lodges. A suitable hall was provided for Grand Lodge to assemble in. Grand Lodge was opened in form at 3 p. m., and proceeded to the lodge-room, where the Dedication Ceremony was performed in accordance with the authorized ceremonial of Grand Lodge. A grand banquet in the evening, about 300 being present.

Ionic Lodge, 328, Napier: Officially visited this lodge on February 28. I had the pleasure of the company of the W. M. of Havelock Lodge and Brother Goodhand, who drove me over from Watford. The roads were almost impassable. On arriving at the village I found a very small attendance of the brethren. The W. M. was present and opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. This lodge has not done any work for some time, although it is composed of some of the

best material in the district. The lodge is under the fraternal guidance of R. W. Bro. Calvert, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bros. Cameron, Dunlop and Sutherland. W. Bro. Sutherland is Secretary and is very entertaining. I will long remember my visit to Ionic Lodge for the kind and courteous manner in which I was received. After lodge closed we all sat down to a well prepared oyster supper.

Washington Lodge, No. 260, Petrolia: Visited this lodge on February 3rd. The W. M. and officers all present, but a very small attendance of members The W. M. and officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, and as they had no degree work on hand, the first degree was exemplified. This is the second year for the W. M., who is a correct worker, and is ably assisted by his Wardens and other officers. I attend this lodge very regularly and have seen the officers work all the degrees, all doing their work well. This lodge is under the watchful care of W. Bros Wilson and Marshall, and is perfectly safe. Number of members present, 14; visitors, 9. W. Bro. McHattie is Secretary and keeps a correct set of books.

Alexandra Lodge, 158, Oil Springs: On March 5th I visited this lodge. The W. M. and officers all present, with the exception of the I. G. The work, an initiation, with W. M. in the east. This was the first attempt for the W. M. to confer the degree, V. W. Brother Miller doing part of the work. The W. M. needs practice; Wardens fairly well up in their work; Deacons good; I feel confident that with a little practice they will do good work. A few days after my visit V. W. Brother Miller, Secretary of the lodge, was taken ill and died on March 30th. By his death Alexandra Lodge loses a good Secretary, a faithful, honest and upright Mason, and one who will be greatly missed by the brethren of the lodge. Number of members and visitors present, 24.

Petrolia Lodge, No 194, Petrolia: Visited this lodge March 11th. It was in this lodge that I first saw light in Masonry sixteen years ago, and under its banner I still claim membership. The W. M. and officers all present. The work was an initiation and a raising, both done in a faultless manner. The W. M. is a young man and a young Mason, but is among the ablest for correct work. Wardens and Deacons among the best. The lodge was opened in the third degree and by my request the chairs were all filled by Past Masters, as follows: W. Bro. Jackson in the East, R. W. Bro. Sinclair, P. D. D. G. M., in the West, W. Bro. Smith in the South, W. Bro. R. Burgess, S. D., W. Bro. Wm. Burgess, J. D., and W. Bro. Stinson, I. G. W. Bro. Jackson proved himself an able exemplifier of the

work, and all the others were equally good. It is very pleasing to see the interest taken by the Past Masters. The financial standing of the lodge is excellent, with a membership of eighty-seven, the outstanding dues being only $15.00. The duties of Secretary have fallen upon your humble servant for the past seven years. Members present, 30; visitors, 15.

Dufferin Lodge, 364, Melbourne: Officially visited this lodge on March 25th, the roads being almost impassable. A small attendance of members present. The visitors included W Bros. Bice, Sawyer and Young, of St. John, 81, Mt. Brydges, and W. Bro. Donaldson, of Delaware Valley Lodge, who assisted me in installing the officers. The W. M. elect is a Past Master, and will make a good presiding officer. Bro. Cooper will make an efficient Secretary. It is only since the election of the W. M. and Secretary that I could hear from this lodge. I wrote four letters to the I. P. M., no answer, and three to their Secretary, with the same result. In looking over the books I find they have done very little work for some time. The brethren were late in coming, causing the lodge to be late in opening, which is very detrimental to its best interests. I pointed out to them the importance of meeting earlier, and of not keeping those who had a long drive late in getting home, and that by following this advice they would get in new members and the lodge would prosper. They are well situated and have plenty of material to draw from. Since my visit they have had two applications, and the Secretary informs me that the prospects are good. They have my best wishes.

Burns Lodge, 153, Wyoming: Visited this lodge on January 29th and installed the officers. I am sorry to report that this lodge has not been prosperous for the past year or two; some bad feeling exists on account of candidates being kept out. There may be good reasons for this, and, therefore, it would not be wise for me to say anything in the matter, but will leave it to the better judgment of those who profess to know. I only trust it is from pure Masonic principles that the black ball has been used so freely. I sincerely trust in justice to the new officers of the lodge "peace and good will" will be the future motto. I feel satisfied the officers are of the best material in the lodge and will do credit to the work if given an opportunity. I officially visited this lodge on April 23rd. W. M. and officers all present. Two candidates balloted for and accepted; one application received and more expected. I am pleased to hear that a better feeling exists among the brethren. Work done, two candidates initiated; W. Bro. Coghlan initiated the first and R. W. Bro. Harvey the second;

work correct. Burns Lodge may feel proud of its efficient staff of officers. Very W. Bro. Wilson is Secretary and is the right man in the right place. The W. M. and officers exemplified the second degree at a lodge of instruction in a faultless manner.

Tuscan Lodge, U. D., Sarnia: Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Sinclair I visited this lodge on October 9th to see it properly started. This lodge meets jointly with Victoria, 56. There was a very large gathering of brethren from the surrounding lodges, including R. W. Bro. Millner, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Clark, Grand Lecturer for the State of Michigan. This lodge is presided over by a very zealous Mason, in the person of W. Bro. Bucke, who is assisted by a very able staff of officers. I handed over the Dispensation to the W. M. Officially visited this lodge on April 28th. About fifty members and visitors present. I learned with regret that the W. M. had met with an accident and was confined to his room. I am sure Grand Lodge will join me in wishing W. Bro. Bucke a speedy recovery. W. Bro. Johnson, W. M. of Victoria Lodge in the East. Officers all present. Two candidates initiated. W. Bro. Johnson initiated the first and W. Bro. McKenzie the second, assisted by R. W. Bro. Hungerford and W. Bros. Wood and George. The Wardens and assistant officers did their work in a faultless manner. This lodge is under the able guidance of Bro. Winlow, and by the work I have seen and the reports I hear I recommend that a warrant be granted them.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

I held a Lodge of Instruction under the auspices of Burns Lodge, 153, Wyoming, which was largely attended, amongst those present being four P. D. D. G. M's. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M. and officers of Havelock Lodge, 238, Watford; the second degree by the W. M. and officers of Burns Lodge, 153, Wyoming, and the third degree by W. Bro. Thoman and officers of Arkona Lodge, 307, Arkona. The degrees were thoroughly exemplified, every officer doing his part well. An enjoyable part of the evening's ceremony was the presentation of a P. D. D. G. M.'s regalia to R. W. Bro. W. J. Ward.

DEATHS.

During the past year there have been eight deaths reported to me: W. Bro Thomas Richardson, P. M., of Beaver Lodge, 83, Strathroy; Brother Andrew Kallock, of St. John's Lodge, 81, Mt. Brydges; V. W. Bro. Walter Miller, P. M., of Alexandra Lodge, 158, Oil Springs; and Bros. Thomas Coch-

rane, Thomas Fletcher, Albert E. Hayden, James Palare and Hector McKenzie, of Petrolia Lodge, 194, Petrolia.

BENEVOLENCE.

The following lodges make application for grants from the fund of benevolence: St. John's, 81, Huron, 392, Bismarck, 419, Burns, 153.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to St. Clair Lodge for removal from Port Lambton to Sombra Village, and to Washington Lodge to appear clothed as Masons to attend divine service. I procured dispensations for Victoria, Burns, and St. Clair Lodges to install officers on days other than those regularly appointed; to Moore Lodge for a Masonic ball; to Washington Lodge to confer the third degree in less time than that required by the Constitution. The fees of which have been remitted to the Grand Secretary, and his receipt acknowledged.

I have travelled about 1000 miles in making my official visits.

EXPENSES.

I sincerely thank the following lodges for liberally donating towards my expenses: Forest, Arkona, St. John's, Leopold, Bismarck, Havelock, Cassia, St. Clair, Moore, Beaver, Victoria, Alvinston, Ionic, Alexandra, Dufferin, Burns and Tuscan.

CONCLUSION.

I desire to thank the Most Worshipful the Grand Master for his valuable decisions upon questions asked, and to the Grand Secretary for giving me any information I asked for, also to the secretaries of the lodges in the district for their regularity in sending me notices of meetings, and to the W. M's., officers and brethren of the district for the kind and courteous manner in which they received me when paying my official visits It has been one of the most pleasant years of my Masonic life, and there will always be a bright spot in my memory for the time I occupied the honorable position of D. D. G. M. for the district.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

ROBERT SCOTT, D. D. G. M.,
St. Clair District No. 2.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Table showing the work done in St. Clair District, No. 2, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.		Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. Work all degrees	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.								
56	Victoria ...	Sarnia	62	8	8	7	6	2	...	5	8	...	...	...	12	3	15	20	.....	6	.....	Jan. 8, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$300 00
81	St. John's..	Mt. Brydges	54	...	8	...	2	2	...	1	1	7	...	1	12	2	14	17	$45 00	11	$ 53 00	Jan. 29, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1500 00
83	Beaver	Strathroy	88	3	11	2	3	2	1	...	5	2	...	3	12	3	15	30	.....	10	100 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
116	Cassia.....	Thedford	35	1	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	1	13	10	15 00	2	6 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Insur'd
153	Burns.	Wyoming	63	3	5	3	3	3	...	...	6	2	...	...	13	5	18	25	46 50	19	125 25	April 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1200 00
158	Alexandra .	Oil Springs	43	3	1	3	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	13	2	15	12	32 00	25	200 00	June 24, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
194	Petrolia.....	Petrolia	87	6	9	4	4	4	2	...	2	2	...	5	14	2	16	20	.....	5	15 00	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	250 00
238	Havelock...	Watford	63	4	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	...	2	13	2	15	17	20 00	26	106 75	June 24, '96.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	300 00
260	Washin't'n	Petrolia	73	4	10	5	2	2	...	...	4	6	...	...	14	3	17	22	.....	15	55 00	June 24, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	250 00
263	Forest.....	Forest	55	2	2	2	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	13	...	13	35	.....	21	75 00	June 24, '95.	Fair.	Bright.	Yes	300 00
294	Moore	Courtright	29	3	2	4	3	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	12	1	13	16	.....	6	43 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
307	Arkona	Arkona	40	4	6	3	3	3	...	1	6	2	...	...	13	...	13	18	.....	3	.....	Feb. 3, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
323	Alvinston...	Alvinston	55	9	10	10	8	7	...	1	1	8	1	1	14	8	22	17	10 00	34	322 75	.....	Improv'g	Good.	Yes	500 00
328	Ionic	Napier	24	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	1	6	8	10 00	23	150 00	June, '95.	Not good	Poor.	No	600 00
364	Dufferin....	Melbourne	20	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	7	9	.....	6	35 00	Dec. 20, '93.	.....	Improv'g	Yes	250 00
392	Huron.....	Camlachie	49	1	2	1	1	1	...	3	1	...	1	...	14	...	14	16	30 00	2	.....	Jan. '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Insur'd
397	Leopold.....	Brigden	40	2	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	13	...	13	11	.....	18	147 00	Dec. '95.	Improv'g	Fair.	Yes	185 00
419	Bisma'ck...	Pt. Edward	70	2	3	2	2	1	...	1	...	3	...	1	12	...	12	18	60 00	5	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	Insur'd
425	St. Clair....	Sombra	36	6	7	6	5	4	...	...	3	6	...	...	12	...	12	13	.....	10	55 50	Feb. 14, '96.	Good	Fav'r'ble	No.	175 00
wd	Tuscan	Sarnia	28	9	1	6	4	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	9	2	11	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.

LONDON DISTRICT NO. 3.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In submitting my report on the condition and prospects of Masonry in this district, I realize that it must necessarily be imperfect. Residing in a small town, away from the centre of Masonic life and influence, and engaged in a calling which demands unbroken attention, I have had to depend for my information in almost every case on the result of one official visit. In some instances this does not afford a sufficient test on which to base a final report on the character of the work and general outlook. In most cases where second visits seemed necessary the lodges are so situated that in order to reach them a drive in each case varying in distance from 20 to 45 miles would be required. For this I had neither the time nor the strength.

However, I have visited every lodge once, and a few the second time, and if large gatherings and enthusiastic receptions are in evidence I have reason to believe that my efforts have been not only appreciated but productive of some good.

CHARACTER OF WORK.

I have given special prominence in my official duties to the importance of correct and impressive working, believing this to lie at the foundation of a lodge's prosperity. In this respect the condition of Masonry in the district is fairly satisfactory. Were it not for a few lodges in which the officers work in a crude and uninviting manner I might describe the condition as highly satisfactory. You will notice that with one exception the W. M's. are reported as capable of working all the degrees. I certainly found the majority of the presiding officers striving to do the work well, the exceptional cases being generally the result of a tendency in some of the smaller lodges to rush brethren through the offices with but little regard to qualification. Against this practice I have not failed to speak. Again, too often mere accuracy seems to be regarded as the all-important requisite, forgetful of the fact that if the candidate's first impressions are to be lasting the work must be delivered not only intelligibly but intelligently. I have urged special

attention on the part of the officers to the importance of impressive working as the strongest factor in producing an interested membership.

PAYMENT OF DUES.

Next to a high standard of excellence in the presentation of the work, I have given special attention to the financial department. In this feature of the lodge's work I have found great diversity of practice. In some lodges the regular payment of dues is held to be a sacred obligation, while in others brethren are allowed to enjoy all the privileges of Masonry though, it may be, several years in arrears. In this there is a manifest unfairness, a want of uniformity contrary to the spirit and teachings of the Order. In the aggregate there is considerable change from last year, and I have to report a marked improvement in some instances, notably in the case of St. John's, 209*a*, the amount of arrears having been reduced from $540 last year to $180, while in Union, No. 380, the number of members in arrears is under 30 per cent. as against 60 per cent. last year. In the whole district the total decrease in arrearages over last year is $683.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

During the year two Lodges of Instruction were held, one at St. Thomas in November, when the work of the first degree was exemplified accurately and forcibly by the officers of Corinthian, No. 330, while the third was well presented by St. Paul's, No. 107. The other was held at London on the 28th day of April, when the officers of "The Tuscan," No. 195, opened and closed satisfactorily in the three degrees, and the third degree was exemplified by Malahide, No. 140. The lodge-room was crowded by members from all parts of the district. Among those present were: R. W. Bros. J. S. Dewar, R. B. Hungerford, J. Simpson, A. E. Cooper and forty Past Masters. As at St. Thomas, the company was entertained with characteristic hospitality by the local brethren.

PAST MASTERS.

I had the pleasure of attending during the winter a meeting of the London Past Masters' Association, at which W. Bro. C. A. Kingston read a thesis on Masonry, containing an exhaustive treatment of the subject both from a historical and an ethical point of view. St. Paul's, No. 107, held a successful Past Master's night, and I had the honor of acting as W. M. in the exemplification of the third degree in Malahide, No. 140, on the occasion of their annual. This practice of giving up one night in the year to the Past Masters cannot be too highly commended as a stimulus alike to old and young.

The regularity with which the Past Masters attend their lodges is a convincing evidence of their continued interest.

DISPENSATIONS.

Dispensations have been granted to St. Thomas, No. 44; St. David's, No. 302; and St. Paul's, No. 107, to appear clothed as Masons in attendance on Divine Worship.

DECEASED.

I have been notified of the death of the following named brethren: V. W. Bro. Ed. Burke, St. George's, 42, 11th January, 1896; W. Bro. George Hampton, Union, 380; Bro. Egerton Ryerson Keys, P. J. W., Corinthian, 330, 29th August, 1895; Bro. Charles Wesley Oke, M. M., Kilwinning, 64, 25th November, 1895; Bro. Thomas Edwards, M. M., St. Thomas, 44, 15th November, 1895; Bro. Robert Wright, M. M., Middlesex, 379, 15th December, 1895.

VISITATIONS.

St. John's, No 20, London: I made my official visit to this the senior lodge of the district on the 11th day of February last and was welcomed by a large number of members and visitors. The W. M., W. Bro. Blackwell, makes an excellent presiding officer, and in the second degree gave evidence of becoming an accurate and forcible worker. In the floor work the S. D. is deserving of special mention. In many respects this is the banner lodge of the district. In the amount paid for relief and in the number of initiations it is in the van, while numerically it is the strongest but one. Financially, too, it is strong, though I regret to say that the number in arrears and the amount of arrearage are proportionally large. This is one of the six city lodges that meet in the Masonic Temple. The lodge room, furniture and adjoining rooms are all that could be desired for Masonic work. I need hardly add that the records are well and truly kept by the veteran Secretary, W. Bro. M. D. Dawson, in whose judgment I concur that the prospects were never better

St. George's, No. 42, London: I visited this lodge on the 6th day of May last and had the pleasure of seeing work in the first and second degrees. W. Bro. Blanch, who is a close worker, was ably assisted by every subordinate officer. During the past year this lodge has displayed considerable activity, with every prospect of steady work for some time to come. It has a membership of 114, and judging from the average attendance, its members are consistent in their desire to maintain the high reputation it enjoys. The dues are faily well paid up, though ten members are reported twelve months in arrears. In the person of V. W. Bro. A. Ellis the lodge has a painstak-

ing Secretary who looks closely after its interests. This lodge mourns the loss of a distinguished brother, a just and upright man and in the highest sense of the word a Freemason, V. W. Bro. Ed. Burke, a brother whose influence was not confined to his own lodge and whose manly bearing will long live in the memory of all who had the good fortune to know him. R. W. Bro. Munson, P. D. D. G. M., is a member of this lodge and a regular attendant. Among the distinguished visiting brethren were R. W. Bro. Dewar, of 209*a*, and W. Bro. Dowd, W. M., of St. Andrew's, Toronto. The prospects are bright.

St. Thomas, No. 44, St. Thomas: I visited this lodge on the 3rd day of October last. This is one of the most prosperous lodges in the district, with a membership of 145, and an average attendance of 34. All the officers were present, and members to the number of 60. The first degree was conferred on two candidates, all the officers acquitting themselves very creditably. During the past two years, under the rule of W. Bro. J S. Robertson, this lodge has been characterized by steady progress. Its financial condition is healthy, and what is better, the greatest harmony and good fellowship prevails. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, and with the brethren enjoyed his encouraging and interesting remarks on the condition of the Order. The books are in the hands of an efficient Secretary in the person of R. W. Bro. L. Slater. The outlook is very bright.

St. Mark's, No. 94, Port Stanley: Accompanied by several brethren from No. 140, I visited this lodge at their regular meeting in May, when the officers worked the second degree with a considerable degree of skill. The few inaccuracies were overbalanced by an earnest effort to make the work impressive. For some years this lodge contended against adverse circumstances. It now bids fair to regain its old status, being practically free from debt and having a comfortable and well appointed lodge-room. Bro. W. M. Berry makes a very efficient secretary, though I regret to have to report 20 members one year in arrears out of a total membership of 31. I urged greater attention to this important department of a lodge's work, and have reason to believe that from the interest taken by several of the brethren, this condition will not long continue.

Malahide, No. 140, Aylmer: So much has been repeatedly said commendatory of this lodge that I need only add that in the excellence of its work and in the practice of Masonic virtues it continues its praiseworthy career. Two years ago this lodge moved into a new home, with new furniture and new appliances, and I have no hesitation in saying that in its ap-

pointments it is second to none in the district. For my first official visit I selected the Past Masters' night, and had the pleasure of assisting in the exemplification of the third degree. Among the distinguished visitors were R. W. Bro. Munson, of London, and R. W. Bro. Boyd, of Belmont. At different times during the year I have been present at the regular meetings of this lodge, and invariably had the pleasure of witnessing perfect work on the part of W. Bro. G. Youell and his staff. Numerically this is the strongest lodge outside of the cities, and its register shows an average of 25. Last year $70 was paid for relief. Already $120 has been appropriated for the coming year. Too great credit cannot be given to its long line of Past Masters for their continued interest in its welfare. With a membership of 79 the books show eight in arrears. The books are in the custody of a secretary who is painstaking and prompt. Amount of insurance $1000. The prospects are excellent.

Prince of Wales, No. 171, Iona: Accompanied by W. Bro. G. Youell, W. M of No. 140, I visited this lodge on Friday, the 27th day of March last. The attendance was small, though somewhat above the average. There being no work, the W. M. and his officers opened and closed in the three degrees very indifferently. The W. M., however, was prompt and accurate in the dispatch of business, and with practice should make an efficient degree worker. The J. W. did badly. A motion was made to suspend certain members for N. P. D., but an amendment laying the matter over for another month carried, the secretary strongly dissenting, on the ground that he had repeatedly, at the request of the lodge, notified these brethren to appear. This lodge has had no work for some time, owing no doubt, to some extent, to its proximity to Fingal and Dutton. During the winter a notice of motion was given with a view to amalgamation with Warren Lodge, should the latter agree to move to Shedden, a condition to which the latter is not likely to concede. Union with either Warren Lodge, or Cameron, would certainly be in the interersts of Masonry in this part of the District. The secretary is an attentive officer. His efforts, however, have falled to secure proper attention to payment of dues. The outlook is only fair.

The Tuscan, No. 195, London: Visited 4th December, 1895. I was received by a large number of members and visiting brethren. Among them, M. W. Bro. Spry, P. G. M., R. W. Bros. Porte, Hungerford, Brodrick, and Cooper, all of this lodge, R. W. Bro. Dewar, of St. John's, 209a, and R. W. Bro. Munson, of St. George's, No. 42. I had the pleasure of

witnessing the election of officers and of seeing the S. W., Bro. Brown, elected presiding officer. From the very excellent support given by him to the W. M. in opening and closing, I feel assured he will not only maintain, but enhance the reputation which this lodge enjoys for good work. The lodge is in good financial shape, and the utmost harmony prevails. It is needless for me to add that R. W. Bro. Hungerford makes a first-class Secretary. As there was no work on, I subsequently asked this lodge to assist at a lodge of instruction. Unfortunately the W. M. was unable to attend. All the other officers were present, and took their parts in finished style. The outlook is very promising.

St. John's, No. 209a, London: Accompanied by a number of brethren from Aylmer, I visited this lodge on the 3rd day of January, and again on the 3rd day of April. On both occasions I was welcomed by a large gathering of members and visitors. This is the largest lodge in the district, having a membership of 185, with an average of 50. On the occasion of my first visit the first degree was worked by W. Bro. W. J. Clark and his officers in an impressive and faultless manner. For years this lodge has enjoyed the reputation of a high standard of excellence. It certainly has shown its determination to maintain that standard by the choice throughout of an excellent staff of officers. I am pleased to be able to report a marked improvement in the collection of dues, the amount of arrears having been reduced from $540 last year to $180. My second visit was made on the evening of Good Friday. An immense gathering had assembled to witness the work of the third degree. The work of the officers was simply perfect. The skill displayed by the candidate on his promotion examination reflected great credit on his instructor. W. Bro. Siddons makes a competent Secretary. The prospects are very bright.

Cameron, No. 232, Dutton: Visited December 20th, 1895. The attendance was made up of fourteen members and three visitors. There being no degree work, at my request the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The W. M., W. Bro. A. Love, took his part exceedingly well, but his support was only fair. Though this lodge has among its members a few enthusiastic Masons, and at least two thoroughly posted Past Masters, I found evidence of considerable indifference on the part of many of the members. With a membership of 39, and an average attendance of only 10, no fewer than 25 are twelve months in arrears, with a total arrearage of $125. This is enough to produce a depressing effect on the ardor of the most faithful. The lodge-room is a good one, but on the

occasion of my visit it presented a somewhat uninviting appearance, carpetless and badly furnished I understand steps were taken shortly after my visit to make it more attractive and home-like. With greater regularity in attendance and closer attention to the payment of dues, this should become a progressive lodge. The books are now in good condition, and the Secretary reports good prospects.

Corinthian, No. 300, London East: In company with Bro. J. E. Richards I visited this lodge at their regular meeting in March, and found the hall crowded with members and visitors. As I had seen the officers exemplify the first degree at the St. Thomas Lodge of Instruction, I expected to see accurate work on my official visit. Nor was I disappointed, as every officer acquitted himself with the highest credit in working the second degree, which was conferred upon three candidates. This lodge is growing rapidly. Its members possess in a high degree the spirit of loyalty to their lodge and to one another. Under these circumstances it must be characterized by a healthy growth. The lodge-room is too small, and otherwise is not well adapted for its peculiar work. Sergt.-Major Munro, W. M., Sergt. Cooper, S. W., and Sergt. Davis, J. W., looked well in their full dress military uniform, and all worked like veterans. The Secretary, V. W. Bro. H. C. Simpson, looks carefully after the financial interests of the lodge, and the dues are fairly well paid The membership numbers 97, with bright prospects of a large increase in the near future.

Merrill, No. 344, Dorchester Station : Visited January 30th, 1896. The attendance of members and visitors was small. Among them V. W. Bro. Chittick, of this lodge, and the Woods Brothers, of London. This lodge has for a number of years had the reputation of doing good work. The W. M. and his staff, at my request, opened and closed in the three degrees, and I regret to say the ceremony was imperfectly rendered. During the despatch of business there were not wanting evidences of an element of discord. The W. M. was hampered in the discharge of his duties by an apparently studied effort on the part of one or two, from whom encouragement rather than obstruction might have been expected. The S. W. is an enthusiastic Mason and must in his turn make an excellent presiding officer. This is the only lodge in the district in which no member was found capable of leading in the G. L. honors During the past winter the lodge room was damaged by fire, but fortunately the loss was covered by insurance. I found the room, furnishings and appointments all that could be desired. The books, which are carefully kept

by W. Bro. Shaw, show only two members twelve months in arrears.

King Solomon, No. 378, London West: Visited April 10th, 1896. I had announced my visit for the regular meeting in February, but was prevented by illness from fulfilling my engagement. The register of that date shows a large gathering, while the minutes record the presentation of jewels to two of the Past Masters. I found all the officers in their places and a large gathering of brethren. W. Bro. Galpin and his officers conferred the third degree in a very pleasing manner. With the exception of a few slight departures in routine, the work was faultless. There were present a large number of Past Masters, among them R. W. Bro. Munson, W. Bro. Morris, W. M., of Union, No. 380, and W. Bros. Element, Essery and Currie of this lodge. The Secretary's books are in a satisfactory condition. The lodge-room, ante-room and furnishings are all suitable for Masonic purposes. This lodge has a membership of 63, and is displaying considerable activity. Thirteen members are in arrears, though the aggregate arrearage is not large. The prospects are good.

Delaware Valley, No. 358, Delaware: Visited September 27th, 1895. Thirty members and visiting brethren were present, including seven Past Masters. I had the pleasure of seeing the second and third degrees worked. I use the word pleasure advisedly, for in both degrees—the former in charge of the W. M. W. Bro. Hammond, the latter taken by W. Bro. W. C. Harris—the officers throughout showed not only familiarity with the work but much impressiveness in its exemplification. I regret to be compelled to report too little attention to the payment of dues, 19 out of a total membership of 44 being 12 months in arrears. I can attribute this condition only to neglect in *requiring* regular payment, as I am sure, brethren of the sterling qualities of those I met, need only to be asked, to respond. The lodge room is comfortably furnished, but, like too many of the rural lodges, the ante-room accommodation is inadequate. The building is owned by the lodge and is well insured. The Secretary, Bro. Montgomery, is a Mason of 40 years standing, and boasts of having missed only two regular meetings during that time. His books are models of neatness. The prospects are bright.

Doric, No. 289, Lobo: Visited 26th March, 1895, accompanied by W. Bro. C. A. Kingston, of St. John's, No. 209*a*. Notwithstanding severe weather and bad roads the attendance was good. All the officers with the exception of the S. W., were on hand, and at my request opened and closed in the three degrees. The W. M. is a well informed and enthusias-

tic Mason, well qualified to maintain the good record which for many years this lodge has enjoyed. His support is good. Not only are the officers good workers, but the members generally display those qualities which should at all times characterize masons. The slightest tendency towards friction is promptly counteracted. Nonpayment of dues is not regarded with that disfavor which it deserves. With a membership of 46, and an average attendance of 15, no fewer than 18 are twelve months in arrears. The Secretary, W. Bro. Dr. Graham, is a careful officer, and looks well to the records. His report gives the prospects as fair. Speaking relatively I have no hesitation in saying they are bright.

Kilwinning, No. 64, London: Visited 16th January, 1896. Considerable activity has characterized this lodge during the past year, though I regret having to report a net decrease of five, the result of suspensions for N. P. D. and of several resignations. On the occasion of my visit I had the pleasure of seeing a full attendance and of meeting R. W. Bros. Hungerford, Munson and Brodrick, P. D. D. G. M's. of this district. The first degree was worked fairly well. Considerable hesitancy characterized the work of some of the officers, attributable no doubt to the fact that this was their first work since installation. The W. M. possesses in a high degree those elements which should make him a model and self-reliant worker. In the matter of arrears not much change is to be noted since last report. I find that with a membership of 145 the number twelve months in arrears is thirty. The Secretary is prompt and attentive. His books are in a highly satisfactory condition.

Nilestown, No. 345, Nilestown: Visited November 26th, 1895. With a membership of 24 and an average attendance of 10 this lodge keeps on the even tenor of its way, showing neither growth nor decay. Too much credit cannot be given to the officers and members for their extreme loyalty to the Order and their lodge, as shown by the regularity of their attendance and the faultless way in which the work of every officer was carried out. At the last election an old P. M., in the person of W. Bro. McDougal, was chosen presiding officer. He governs with becoming dignity. The dues are however allowed to run behind, no fewer than fourteen being twelve months in arrears. I urged attention to this part of a member's duty. The lodge room is comfortable and well adapted for Masonic purposes. W. Bro. Barrows looks well to the records. Though no material is in sight, the character of the membership warrants my regarding the outlook as encouraging.

Mount Olivet, No. 300, Thorndale: Visited Friday, March

27th. Though a small lodge, with a membership of only 29, this may be said to be a growing lodge, and one to which the officers and members are thoroughly loyal. Though my visit was a short one on account of the train accommodation, it was one of the most pleasurable of the year. The openings and closings would indicate efficient degree work, every officer being prompt and in earnest. The large attendance of Past Masters is worthy of notice. The hall is comfortable, well appointed, and insured. Arrearages of dues small. The Secretary, W. Bro. M. N. Wright, gives careful attention to the records. The prospects are very encouraging

St. David's, No. 302, St. Thomas: A large number of members and visitors welcomed me on my official visit on the third Thursday of October last. Among them, R. W. Bros. Hess and Slater, and V. W. Bros. Dubber and Bradshaw. The third degree was worked fairly well. The W. M. and J. W. were especially accurate and impressive. Bro. McConnell makes an excellent Secretary, but the old complaint of too little attention to the payment of dues may still be made. With a membership of 88, and an average attendance of 17, fifty per cent. are one year in arrears. Were it not for this blot, this lodge would, in the words of my predecessor, "stand among the first in the district." The lodge room is a good one, and is well furnished, while among the members are several whose continued interest cannot fail to insure ultimate success.

Henderson, No. 388, Ilderton: Visited 8th November, 1895. A heavy rain storm during the afternoon and evening resulted in a small attendance. Only ten members were present, while, with the exception of the W. M. and the J. W., all the officers were absent. The substitutes, however, gave the W. M. excellent support in the openings and closings. This is certainly a good sign. The lodge meets in a well furnished room, but, like many other lodges in the district, is deficient in ante room accommodation. Only one initiation during the year, leaving the membership still 40. The dues are well paid up. Owing to the absence of the Secretary, who, like many of the members, lives a considerable distance from the lodge, I was unable to obtain all the desired information. Judging from his special report, I have reason to believe him an excellent officer. The outlook is encouraging.

Warren, No. 120, Fingal: Visited January 28th, 1896, accompanied by W. Bro. Dr. G. F. Clark, of No. 240. I was received with the customary honors by a very fair attendance of members and several visitors. The second degree was worked with considerable precision and impressiveness by W.

Bro. Dr. Guest and his officers. I was especially struck with the prompt and business-like way in which the routine work was dispatched. This lodge has a membership of 34, and while too many are one year in arrears, still its financial standing is good The lodge owns the building, which is kept insured. W. Bro. Else makes a painstaking Secretary. I am pleased to report that the prospects are good.

St. Paul's, No. 107, Lambeth: Accompanied by several brethren from Malahide, No. 140, I made my first official visit to this lodge September 4th. I received a hearty welcome from the sixty brethren present, the numbers being about equally divided between members and visitors. A pleasing feature of the gathering was the large attendance of Past Masters, no fewer than fourteen being present. An examination of the register shows this to be characteristic of this lodge. The second degree was conferred on two candidates in a highly creditable manner. The J. W. particularly impressed me as a forcible and accurate worker. In the absence of the S. W., detained from illness, Bro. George Youell, of No. 140, gave the lecture without a blunder. Substantial progress has been made during the year, and the old-time enthusiasm prevails. The hall is the property of the lodge, and is well insured. With a membership of 53, only three are twelve months in arrears. In the words of the prompt and careful Secretary, Bro. H. Poole, the prospects were " never better."

Moffat, No. 399, Harrietsville: Visited November 22nd, 1895. There were present 11 members and about an equal number of visiting brethren. This lodge, with a membership of only 19, has remained stationary, with one initiation and one resignation. As in the case of Middlesex, more than fifty per cent. of the members are P. M's. The W. M. opened and closed in the three degrees very indifferently. The third degree was exemplified by P. M. O'Neil, whose work was good, as was that of the S. W. The other officers worked badly. W. Bro. Jelly makes an efficient Secretary. The dues are well paid up. I cannot speak encouragingly of the prospects. Union with Belmont, from which it is distant only four miles, would result in the formation of one good lodge.

Middlesex, No. 379, Bryanston: Accompanied by R. W. Bros. Brodrick and Cooper, and W. Bro. McWhinney, of London, I visited this lodge on the 22nd day of April last. There was a fair attendance of members. W. Bro. McPherson and his officers opened and closed in the three degrees with a fair degree of accuracy. The W. M. especially gave evidence of close attention to every detail. With the same attention to

expression and emphasis, he would make an excellent worker. I was pleased to meet W. Bro. Nicholson, who was compelled a year ago, owing to failing health, to resign the office of Secretary, which he had held for many years. With a membership of 23, eleven are twelve months in arrears. The condition of the Secretary's books is satisfactory. The prospects are not very bright. During the past two years there have been no initiations, and the arrears are out of all proportion to the membership.

Belmont, No. 190, Belmont: Accompanied by a number of the Malahide brethren, I visited this lodge November 1st, 1895. This is one of the small lodges, with a membership of only 21, an increase of two over last year. There was a good attendance of members and several visitors from the surrounding lodges. The W. M. and his officers worked the first degree only moderately well. There was lacking that quality which enforces attention and gives a finish to the work, and yet the work, especially that of the W. M., followed closely the prescribed lines. The hall is owned by the members, and is well insured. The lodge-room is well furnished and suitable for the purpose, but the ante-room is quite too small. In non-payment of dues this lodge is a record-breaker, 15 out of 21 being twelve months in arrears; total arrears $130. This is the home of R. W. Bro. Boyd, the Secretary, whose books are kept neatly and accurate. The prospects are fair.

Union, No. 380, London: Visited April 20th, 1896. A large number of brethren in attendance, among them R. W. Bros. Brodrick and Cooper and V. W. Bros. Bridle and Callard. All the officers were in their places and worked the third degree in a manner to disarm adverse criticism. No other lodge in the district has shown greater activity, and no staff of officers is worthy of higher praise for accurate, prompt and impressive work. For a number of years this lodge was crippled with debt. To-day, as a result of faithful attention to its interests on the part of W. Bro. Morris and the Secretary, it is practically out of debt. With the same careful attention continued for a year or two this lodge must stand among the best in every respect. A net increase of 15 during the year brings the membership up to 102. There are still too many in arrears, but the number is being gradually reduced. Bro. Joseph Ward makes a competent secretary. The prospects are very bright.

King Solomon, No. 394, Thamesford: Accompanied by W. Bro. C. T. Burdick, of No. 140, I made my official visit to this lodge on the 29th day of December last. Number present, 24. This lodge owns a fine hall, which is well furnished and

equipped for the purposes of Masonry. I had the pleasure of seeing W. Bro. Dr. McWilliams and his staff work the first degree in a manner that is not excelled by any other lodge in the district. There was not a single weak link in the chain of officers and no detail in the ceremony was unheeded. The members are proud of their lodge and their officers. If at any time trouble existed there is now no indication of it for the utmost good fellowship prevails. The Secretary, W. Bro. Dundass, makes an excellent officer. This lodge has the proud distinction of having no members in arrears. The prospects are excellent.

Spartan, No. 176: Shortly after I had entered upon the duties of my office, and before I had an opportunity of making an official visit, this lodge surrendered its charter, the veteran Secretary, W. Bro. F. A. Henderson, delivering it in person. The reasons given were the scattered condition of the membership and the consequent difficulty in obtaining quorums. Sixteen members have retired in good standing, most of whom, I am informed, purpose affiliating with adjoining lodges.

Before closing this report I must place on record my obligation to the many brethren, not only of my own lodge but throughout the district, who have accompanied me on my official visits. I have only to add that wherever I have gone the brethren have evinced their loyalty to the representative of the Grand Master by their warm-hearted hospitality and by liberally contributing towards defraying the expenses of this office.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

W. W. RUTHERFORD, D. D. G. M.,
London District, No. 3.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in London District, No. 3, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year.	Membership. Decrease during year	Degree's conf'r'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
20	St. John's	London	157	19	14	17	8	4	1	1	...	13	...	...	13	3	16	25	$100 00	38	$400 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Jointly
42	St. George's	"	114	10	2	3	3	1	...	1	...	...	1	11	2	13	35	60 00	10	65 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Jointly
44	St. Thomas'	St. Thomas	115	14	5	3	2	3	7	2	3	5	...	2	14	2	16	34	28 00	33	158 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$800 00
64	Kilwinning	London	145	8	13	6	8	5	2	...	5	7	...	1	11	2	13	30	45 00	30	220 00	Dec. 31, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Jointly
94	St. Mark's	Port Stanley	31	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	12	12	.....	20	50 00	Dec. 31, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	250 00
107	St. Paul's	Lambeth	52	5	2	4	5	5	1	...	2	...	...	...	13	2	15	23	45 75	3	17 83	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1200 00
120	Warren	Fingal	34	3	...	3	2	1	...	..	2	...	...	...	10	...	10	15	.....	9	23 00	Dec 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
140	Malahide	Aylmer	79	4	2	3	2	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	11	4	15	25	70 00	8	67 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
171	Prin. Wales	Iona	34	2	8	1	...	...	...	1	2	6	...	...	9	1	10	12	5 00	23	108 00	June 24, '95.	Poor.	Improv'g	Yes	100 00
190	Belmont	Belmont	21	2	...	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	8	.....	15	130 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	800 00
195	The Tuscan	London	75	3	1	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	10	...	10	20	12 00	10	70 00	June,	Good.	Fair.	Yes	Jointly
209a	St. John's	"	185	7	...	10	6	2	3	...	7	7	...	...	12	7	19	50	35 00	37	180 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Jointly
232	Cameron	Dutton	39	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	2	15	10	.....	25	125 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
289	Doric	Lobo	46	1	2	...	...	1	..	1	1	...	...	...	9	1	10	15	.....	18	49 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	Yes.
300	Mt. Olivet	Thorndale	29	3	...	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14	12	20 00	4	33 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Improv'g	Yes	600 00
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	88	...	2	5	4	4	...	5	3	9	...	...	14	1	15	17	.....	43	156 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	600 00
330	Corinthian	London East	97	16	2	10	9	8	6	...	...	...	...	1	13	2	15	25	15 00	15	80 00	June 24, '94.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	450 00
344	Merrill	Dorchester	23	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	10	...	10	9	.....	2	20 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
345	Nilestown	Nilestown	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	10	...	10	16	.....	14	48 60	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
358	Del'w're V'y	Delaware	41	3	2	3	3	3	...	1	...	2	...	...	12	...	12	14	20 00	19	51 00	Dec. 27, '94.	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
378	King S't'mn	London West	63	4	6	4	4	4	...	...	1	4	...	1	12	1	13	22	20 00	13	60 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
379	Middlesex	Bryanston	23	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	8	...	8	10	.....	11	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair	Fair.	Yes	200 00
380	Union	London	102	15	...	15	12	13	..	2	1	...	...	1	12	1	16	29	10 00	30	208 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Jointly
388	Henderson	Ilderton	40	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14	12	30 00	6	25 00	July,	'95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
394	King S't'mn	Thamesford	52	3	...	3	4	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	13	1	14	19	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1500 00
399	Moffat	Harrietsville	19	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	1	12	9	.....	4	35 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	No.	.....

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT NO. 4.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

It is with pleasure that I submit for your consideration my report upon the condition of Masonry in the Fourth Masonic District, showing as it does a material improvement in the condition of the lodges.

Immediately on my election I appointed W. Bro. J. Russel Stuart, of Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, District Secretary, and Bro. R. W. D. Williams, of Stratford Lodge, No. 332, District Chaplain. To each of these brethren I desire to express my appreciation of their willingness at all times to render me any assistance in their power in the carrying on of the work devolving upon me.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

Believing that the best means of obtaining uniformity in the work in the various lodges was through the holding of Lodges of Instruction, I had one called at Seaforth under the auspices of Britannia Lodge, No. 170. There assembled there some ninety brethren from the various parts of the district. The first degree was exemplified by Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich. The second degree by Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth (Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter, who were to have exemplified this degree, were unable to be present at the last moment) ; and the third degree by Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford. The work was so well done in all three degrees that it entirely precluded any adverse criticism.

I desire to convey my heartfelt thanks to the brethren of Britannia Lodge, No. 170, for their entertainment of the brethren on this occasion. A more pleasant and instructive Lodge of Instruction I will venture to say has never been held in this district, and all the brethren who attended this one were firmly convinced that Lodges of Instruction had come to stay. I trust that the time is not far distant when Grand Lodge will see the wisdom of making the holding of Lodges of Instruction part of the duty of the D. D. G. M's. I cannot help thinking that the expense of a Lodge of Instruction should not be borne by the lodge under whose auspices it is

held, but either by the whole district or by the Grand Lodge. I trust that some legislation in this direction will shortly be forthcoming.

ARREARAGE OF DUES.

I regret to have to report that I found the arrearages of dues in the lodges in the district to be very large. I endeavored to impress upon the brethren the necessity of paying their dues promptly, and in one instance felt it necessary to have a lodge send notices to all the brethren in arrear. I feel that this has had a beneficial effect, as reports from that lodge are much more encouraging.

VISITS.

I have visited all the lodges in the district once and some of them twice. I arranged my visits so that they would fall on the nights of the regular meetings of the lodges, preferring to see the general business of the lodge gone through with than some work specially prepared, as would have been the case had emergency meetings been called. I find there is a great improvement noticeable throughout the whole district. The only lodge that I consider to be weak as to quality of work at the present time being Morning Star Lodge, No. 309, Smith's Hill. I regret to say that while the new officers elected are an improvement on their predecessors, they are still not up to the standard. The best lodges in the district are: Tecumseh, No. 144, Stratford; Clinton, No. 84, Clinton; Britannia, No. 170, Seaforth; and Stratford, No. 332, Stratford; and these lodges are not ahead of the others in the work of the principal officers so much as in the work of the junior officers. I am sorry to say that I found the junior officers in some of the lodges unable to do their work at all. I cannot understand brethren taking offices in the lodge unless they intend to use their best endeavors to get up the work of that office. I cannot close this portion of my report without remarking the improvement I found in St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Marys. From occupying a position near the foot of the list, they have risen to be one of the coming lodges of the district, and before long will be found at the top if they continue to improve as they are doing.

TIME OF ELECTION.

My experience of the past year has led me to the conclusion that the election of officers in all the lodges should take place immediately preceding the meeting of Grand Lodge so that the D. D. G. M's. and the officers of the lodges should hold office contemporaneously throughout the year. As it is now the officers of some lodges escape inspection altogether while

others have two inspections. I think this is a matter which should engage the serious attention of Grand Lodge.

DIVINE SERVICE.

I take pleasure in reporting that the excellent practice of attending divine service is becoming more general. During the past year Tecumsch Lodge, No. 144, Stratford; Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter; Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell, and Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford, attended divine service at their respective towns in a body, and I have pleasure in recommending other lodges to do likewise.

SECRETARIES.

I find that the secretaries are all up to the mark. There is only one from whom I do not receive the notices regularly (the Secretary of Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan). In this way I was enabled to keep in touch with the various lodges and to know the work they were doing, which was a great help to me. The banner secretary of the district is Bro. J. Orr Rose, of Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth, whose books are models of neatness. The books of all the lodges are well kept, which speaks volumes for the painstaking secretaries.

DISPENSATIONS.

I issued the following dispensations during the year: To Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell; Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter; Tecumsch Lodge, No. 144, Stratford, and Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford, to attend divine service clothed as Masons. To Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan, to install their officers on a night other than that provided for in their by-laws.

BY-LAWS.

A change in the by-laws of Tecumsch Lodge, No. 144, Stratford, for submission to the M. W. the Grand Master was the only one received by me.

COMPLAINTS.

On 20th May I received a complaint from Wingham Lodge that Blyth Lodge, No. 303, were infringing on their jurisdiction. I wrote Blyth the day I received complaint and on 28th May received a reply from them stating that they had written Wingham endeavoring to settle the difficulty themselves. As I have heard nothing further from them I presume they have succeeded in doing so.

SPECIAL REPORT.

I regret to have to report that I found Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall, meeting in the Oddfellows' Hall conjointly with

the Oddfellows. I called their attention to their wrong-doing. They presented a petition to me to forward to the M. W. the Grand Master praying that a dispensation be granted to them to meet there. This the M. W. the Grand Master refused to grant. I have written them since then in reference to the matter, but cannot find that they have made any change in their location, so beg to report the matter to you.

Before proceeding with a special report of my various visits, I desire to express my appreciation of the idea adopted by Grand Lodge last year of having the D. D. G. M's. meet M. W. Bro. Murray to receive instruction from him as to the secret work. This was a source of great help to me, and enabled me to enter upon the discharge of my duties with much greater confidence in the correctness of my rulings than I could otherwise have done. I trust Grand Lodge will have seen the wisdom of their course last year and will continue this excellent practice, as I feel that it is only by such means as this that the work can be made uniform throughout the whole jurisdiction.

Doric Lodge, No. 233, Parkhill : Visited this lodge on Oct. 29, 1895. W. Bro. A. S. Thornton, W. M., in the chair. Rev. Bro. Dawson and about twenty brethren present. There was no work on hand. Had the W. M. open and close in the three degrees and exemplify the secret work. Bro. Bulmer, the last candidate raised, was examined in first and second degrees and was very proficient. The Master's work is right up to the standard, and he has a very efficient staff of officers to assist him. The books are well kept. I was particularly struck with the large number of Past Masters, who take an active interest in the lodge. The prospects of this lodge are very bright.

Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall : Visited this lodge on Oct. 31, 1895. As I have reported elsewhere, I found them meeting in the Oddfellows' Hall. I very reluctantly pointed their error out to them, as I sympathize with a lodge situated as this lodge is, in a small village where the accommodation for such purposes is exceedingly limited, and where the brethren are not in a position to own their lodge room. W. Bro. Duncan McEwan, W. M., was in the chair. There was no regular work, so I had the W. M. open in the three degrees and exemplify the secret work in each. I corrected any errors. The books are well kept. This lodge needs some brushing up.

New Dominion Lodge, No. 205, New Hamburg : I visited this lodge Nov. 4, 1895. The W. M. W. Bro. T. H. Sterling being unavoidably absent the chair was taken by W. Bro. Allshire, of Plattsville, who is one of the veterans, and whom it

is always a pleasure to meet. I conferred the third degree on a candidate. I am sorry to say the work of the officers was not well done. I instructed them in the various degrees, and urged upon them the necessity of devoting more time to the work. I again visited this lodge on 30th March, 1896, W. Bro. Walker, I. P. M., in the chair. The first degree was conferred on three candidates—on two of them by W. Bro. Walker and on the third by W. Bro. Allshire, who had driven nine miles over the worst roads of the year to be present. I am sorry his good example is not followed by more of the brethren of the district, as I am informed that he very rarely misses a meeting. The work of W. Bro. Walker was excellent, no fault can be found with it, but I do find fault with the W. M. of the lodge. Although present in the lodge-room during most of the work, he did not take any part in it, and I was informed that thus far he had not conferred any degrees. I am sorry to report this particularly when I know he can equal in point of ability the best workers in the district. The prospects of this lodge are much brighter than a year ago. The books are fairly well kept.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford: I paid my official visit to this lodge on Nov. 7, 1895. W. Bro. J. Russel Stuart, W. M., in the chair. About 80 brethren present. I was pleased to see the members of the sister lodge, Stratford No. 332, present in large numbers, indicating the good feeling existing between the lodges. The first, second and third degrees were conferred in a manner that cannot be improved upon. Every officer, from the W. M. to the Inner Guard, knew his work, and performed it thoroughly. This lodge is equal if not superior to any lodge in the district, and its prospects are the brightest, and must continue so as long as they take in such bright material as Bro. T. J. Wilkins (who received his third degree) proved himself to be. It has seldom been my privilege to hear a candidate pass a better examination than he did. The brethren of Stratford have further improved their handsome rooms by the addition of a refreshment room, which makes them the most complete rooms I have ever visited. The refreshment room was opened for the first time on this occasion. The books are well kept. Tecumseh is in good hands.

Clinton Lodge, No. 84, Clinton: Visited this lodge on 8th Nov., 1895. W. Bro. Dr. J. W. Shaw, W. M., in the chair. The second degree was conferred on a candidate who passed a very creditable examination. The work was well done by all the officers being right up to the standard. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and I exemplified the secret

work. Clinton Lodge has to be congratulated on the very able staff of officers who were at the head of the lodge on this occasion. The officers of the lodge, who were elected in December, kindly met me at Blyth on April 28, 1896, the occasion of my official visit to that lodge. They exemplified the third degree. I cannot give them too much praise for the manner in which they exemplified the degree. In this short time they have been in office they have mastered the work in a very creditable manner, and I am certain that the prospects of this lodge were never brighter than at present, as the lodge could not be better equipped with officers. The books are very well kept.

Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich: Visited this lodge on 12th November, 1895. About 35 present. W. Bro. A. S. Chrystal, W. M., in the chair. The W. M. initiated a candidate in a very creditable manner. The other officers are well up in their work, more particularly the Junior Deacon, who gave as correct an exemplification of his work as I have heard. I was sorry to find the dues badly in arrear and censured W. M. and Secretary for this state of affairs. I again visited this lodge on May 12th, 1896, their regular meeting. For my convenience the W. M. of Morning Star Lodge, Smith's Hill, attended and exemplified the third degree, a report of which will be found under Morning Star Lodge. W. Bro. Chrystal initiated a candidate and his work was well done. I regret to say that the same cannot be said of the other officers, other than J. W. The Deacons of this lodge, appointed in December, who acted as Deacons in third degree for Morning Star Lodge, are far from what they should be as to excellence of work. I pointed out the folly of brethren taking office unless they intend to get up the work. I have every reason to think my visit will have a beneficial effect. The dues are in a much more satisfactory condition than on the occasion of my last visit, but are not in as good a condition yet as they ought to be. The prospects of this lodge are bright. The books are well kept.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 309, Smith's Hill. I visited this lodge on November 27, accompanied by R. W. Bros. Collins, Beck, and Radcliffe, and about eight brethren from Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich. W. Bro. Brown, P. M., in the chair. No work was done. The election of officers took place at this meeting. I had the lodge opened in the three degrees and exemplified the secret work. The officers were not well up in their work. The W. M. of this lodge, W. Bro. Wilson, kindly met me at Goderich on the occasion of my visit to Maitland Lodge, No. 33, on the 12th May, and exemplified the third degree. I am sorry none of the other officers of the lodge

came in, so that I had no opportunity of seeing their work. The work of the W. M. was not up to the mark, but nevertheless it was a vast improvement on that of his predecessor. I appreciate the disadvantage, as to drills and having no candidates going through, that the Master labors under, together with the fact that he had to unlearn the old work before learning the new, he being an old Past Master. I think the lodge will be safe in his hands and that the quality of the work will improve, as I do not think he will be satisfied until he has completely mastered the work.

St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Marys: I visited this lodge on December 27, 1895, and installed their officers. This lodge was reported weak last year, but if the enthusiasm of the brethren is an indication of the future of the lodge, their prospects are bright. I visited this lodge again on May 4th, 1896, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Harding, and Bros. Hodgins, Cassels, Scott, and Miller, of Stratford. W. Bro. Webster, W. M., in the chair. The W. M. conferred a second degree on a candidate. I was greatly pleased with the correctness of his work and that of the Senior Warden. The floor work was not up to the standard, lacking the precision found in some other lodges. I did not find the Junior Warden in his place, the chair being ably filled by W. Bro. Stand. On inquiry I found this to be a very usual thing, and that the brother who was elected to that office has not got his work up at all. I cannot too strongly condemn the practice of electing officers to positions that they cannot or will not fill properly. Merit alone should guide in this matter. The prospects of this lodge are bright. The books are well kept.

Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell: Visited this lodge on January 28, 1896, accompanied by a number of brethren from Stratford. I was met there by W. Bro. Webster and five others from St. James', No. 73, St. Marys. W. Bro. Alex. Cameron, W. M., in the chair. The first degree was confered on a candidate in a satisfactory manner. The work of the Master and Wardens was well done, while that of the junior officers was lacking only in some small details. I think the prospects of this lodge are very bright. I met the W. M. of this lodge at Seaforth, St Marys, and Stratford, and feel that this lodge must prosper under so enthusiastic a Mason as he has proved himself to be. The books are well kept.

Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan: I installed the officers of this lodge on Januray 30, 1896, under a dispensation issued for that purpose. I did not find a very large attendance of members, but this was no doubt due to the bad state of the roads. The affairs of this lodge have not been in a very satis-

factory condition. The lodge meets in a room not at all suitable for the purpose, and I trust that the efforts being put forth by the officers and members of this lodge towards securing better accommodation will meet with success. Bro. C. W. Mulloy was installed as W. M. I feel sure that the affairs of Irving Lodge are in good hands. All the officers installed were bright, and I hope they will put the energy into the lodge that I know they possess. If they do so a bright future is in store for this lodge. The books are fairly well kept.

Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter: Visited this lodge on April 27, 1896, accompanied by Bro. F. W. Gearing. W. Bro. J. J. Knight, W. M., in the chair, and about 40 brethren present. W. Bro. Knight conferred the third degree upon a candidate in a very pleasing manner. The work of the other officers was all that could be desired. The prospects of this lodge are bright. The books are well kept. I had hoped to meet the new officers of Zurich Lodge, Hensall, on this occasion, but they failed to put in an appearance.

Blyth Lodge, No. 303, Blyth: Visited this lodge on April 28th, 1896. W. Bro. Ouimette, W. M., in the chair, and about 50 brethren present. There was no regular work on hand. The W. M. exemplified the first degree. I was much pleased with his work, but the other officers lacked precision, which could be attained by drill. The officers of Clinton Lodge, No. 84 (who were elected in December), very kindly adopted my suggestion to meet me on this occasion and exemplify the third degree. A report of their work will be found under Clinton Lodge. The prospects of Blyth Lodge are the brightest, and must continue so as long as the lodge is presided over by brethren of the ability of W. Bro. Ouimette. The books are well kept.

Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford: In addition to attending all the regular meetings, I visited this lodge officially on May 11th. W. Bro. Wm. Gillespie, W. M, in the chair, and about 65 brethren present. There was no work to do. The W. M. exemplified the first degree in a very satisfactory manner. The other officers performed their duties exceedingly well, particularly Bro. Powell, who was acting as Junior Deacon in the absence of the regular officer I can safely say that the work of this lodge is still up to the excellent standard so often given it by my predecessors. The prospects of this lodge are excellent. The books are well kept.

Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth: I visited this lodge on June 1st, accompanied by Bro. Maynard, of Stratford. W. Bro. J. H Reid, W. M., in the chair, and about 40 brethren present. The W. M. conferred a first degree on a candidate

in a very impressive manner. His work was well done, being up to the work of the lodge in the past. The other officers did their work in a manner pleasant to observe. The prospects of this lodge are the very brightest. The books are models of neatness.

Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden : I visited this lodge on June 26, 1896, accompanied by R. W. Bro. McClellan and Bros. Maynard, Dingman and Eidt, of Stratford. R. W. Bro. McClellan installed the officers of the lodge, after which W. Bro. Ed. Learch and the other of the old officers resumed their chairs, and a candidate was initiated. This was their first candidate in two years. I was well pleased with the quality of the work. There is no lodge in the district more loyal to the D. D. G. M. than this lodge, as no matter how much of a stranger he may be when he enters the village before he leaves he feels he has known the brethren all his life time. The prospects of this lodge are bright. The books are very well kept.

And now my work is finished Done very imperfectly I must confess, but done as best I could do it. In retiring from the chair permit me to express my thanks to the various lodges for the uniform kindness with which they have greeted me and for the kindly assistance they have given me on all occasions. I cannot close my report without expressing to the brethren my deep sense of the honor done me in electing me to the proud position of D. D. G M. of the district. Their fraternal co-operation throughout the year has lightened the labors of the office, and the remembrance of their hospitality and brotherly reception will always be with me. I can only ask them to accept my sincerest thanks.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. A. Macfadden, D. D. G. M.,
South Huron District, No. 4.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in South Huron District, No. 4, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership: Total No. of all Mem.	Membership: Increase during year	Membership: Decrease during year.	Degree's conf'r'd: E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd: F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd: M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held: Regular.	Meetings held: Emergent	Meetings held: Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearges.	Date of last G. L Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
33	Maitland ...	Goderich	96	4	...	7	7	5	4	1	5	...	...	3	13	7	20	21	$95 00	11	$110 00	Dec. 27, '95..	Good	Good.	Yes	$ 800 00
73	St. James...	St. Mary's.....	70	5	...	4	4	4	3	1	3	...	...	...	14	2	16	18	8 60	22	155 75	June, '95 ...	Not good	Good.	Yes	500 00
84	Clinton	Clinton.....	72	...	6	2	3	2	1	...	1	3	...	...	13	...	13	25	26 50	9	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
133	Leb'nonForest	Exeter	75	1	.	2	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	2	12	2	14	20	5 00	11	75 00	Jan. 28, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
141	Tudor'l.....	Mitchell	39	3	...	3	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	11	2	13	15	...	7	71 50	Feb., '96. ...	Good.	Good	Yes	300 00
144	Tecumseh..	Stratford.....	109	7	...	9	10	12	2	...	3	1	...	...	13	3	16	41	24 25	15	142 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	.....
154	Irving	Lucan.....	59	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	7	1	8	10	20 00	16	84 00	June 24, '95	Fair.	Not good	Yes	400 00
170	Britannia ..	Seaforth	78	...	1	4	3	3	2	...	3	3	...	1	13	...	13	20	5 00	4	86 50	Dec. 27, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
205	New Dominion	New Hamburg.	30	1	...	7	6	6	...	...	1	...	...	2	12	2	14	13	1 00	13	112 65	June 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
224	Zurich	Hensall.	37	...	...	3	2	2	...	...	1	2	...	...	12	...	12	15	11 00	4	19 50	Jan. 30 '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	100 00
233	Doric	Parkhill	43	...	3	2	5	4	...	1	3	3	...	...	10	3	13	12	.....	27	133 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
303	Blyth	Blyth.....	54	2	...	3	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	...	11	...	30 00	22	114 53	June 24, '95	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	.....
309	M'ning Star	Smith's Hill	48	...	5	.	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	6	...	6	10	20 00	30	230 00	June '95.....	Good.	Doubtful	Yes	600 00
318	Wilmot.....	Baden	34	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	12	12	...	15	84 90	June 24, '95	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
332	Stratford ...	Stratford.....	124	4	...	6	1	5	1	1	4	...	...	...	12	...	12	33	36 60	26	108 05	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	.....

NORTH HURON DISTRICT No. 5.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F and A. M of Canada in the Province of Ontario

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,

I have the honor of presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in the Fifth Masonic District during the past year, and whilst doing so I desire to extend my thanks to the brethren of this district for their expression of confidence in me in unanimously electing me to the high office of D. D. G. M.

My first official act was the appointment of W. Bro. W. J. Ferguson, of Cedar Lodge, No. 396, as District Secretary, to whom I have been indebted for efficient service whilst attending to the duties of his office.

My next duty was the consideration of an application from the brethren of the village of Hepworth for a dispensation to establish a lodge there, and the same having been met with in a truly Masonic spirit by the brethren of the adjoining lodges, I had no hesitation after inspecting the proposed lodge-room and its furnishings, and, knowing from personal knowledge that the proposed officers were well skilled, in recommending the application to the favorable consideration of the M. W. the Grand Master, who was subsequently pleased to grant his dispensation for them to meet as a lodge, to be entitled "Burns Lodge," and in pursuance thereof I attended on the 20th day of November, 1895, for the purpose of opening the lodge, when I found a large number of the craft assembled. On this occasion I had the valuable assistance of R. W. Bro. Thos. Wilson, M. D., P. D. G. M., of Tara, and the officers of Cedar Lodge, No. 396, assisted me in the other offices. I may add that this lodge "under dispensation," is one of the most beautifully and tastefully furnished lodges in the district, and that the visiting brethren were subsequently very bountifully entertained by their Hepworth brethren. The subsequent progress of this lodge will be referred to later in my report.

I am happy to say that I have been able to visit personally all the lodges in the district during the year, and have been pleased to find a generally progressive spirit in nearly all the lodges, and that with one or two exceptions the work has been very well done, as may be shown by the following few brief notes I have made on the occasion of my visits :

VISITS.

Forest, No. 162, Wroxeter: I visited this lodge on Feb. 24th, at its regular meeting, and found the attendance fair but not as large as was expected, owing to the heavy state of the roads. W. Bro. Miller and his officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, and exemplified the first degree in a manner alike creditable to themselves and the craft. The books of the Secretary and Treasurer are well kept.

St. John's, No. 284, Brussels: My visit to Brussels was made on February 25 at a regular, and I had the honor to be assisted by R. W. Bro. J. A. Morton, P. D. D. G. M., of Wingham. The attendance was large. The third degree was conferred by the W. M., W. Bro. H. James, assisted by W. Bro. Irwin, and the work of the lodge was well done throughout. I particularly examined the Secretary's books, and found him one of the most efficient in the district.

Fordwich, No. 331, Fordwich: I visited here on the 27th February. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. I did not find the work quite up to the standard, owing largely, as I believe, to the W. M. and his officers living at a distance from each other. I did not find the books satisfactorily kept and recommended the Secretary to obtain a new set. The arrears of dues are altogether too large, I believe, for a lodge of their small numbers. The W. M. and Secretary have undertaken to have them reduced as soon as possible. The brethren possess a comfortable and well furnished lodge-room.

Teeswater, No. 276, Teeswater: Visited on Feb. 28th at a regular. This lodge has not been very flourishing for some few years, but the prospects have been reported to me as materially improving. The second degree was conferred by W. Bro. Dr. Stewart, and the work was fairly well done by him and his officers. The books are well kept. The opening and closing was very well done in all the degrees. As Teeswater is a prosperous village I expect this lodge will steadily improve.

Old Light, No. 184, Lucknow: Visited at an emergency on March 2nd. Notwithstanding a cold stormy night there was a large turn out of the brethren. I had here the assistance of R. W. Bro. Dr. D. H. Martyn, of Kincardine. This lodge has a large number of able and zealous P. M's., who, headed by the senior P. M., W. Bro. Dr. Tennant, take an active interest in lodge work. The lodge own the Masonic Hall premises, have a substantial balance in the bank, and have no arrears of dues, which latter fact I understand is largely owing to their efficient Secretary, W. Bro. Days. The first

degree was conferred by W. Bro. Bryant—it being the first occasion for him to do so—and was done in a manner highly creditable to himself and his officers.

Wingham, No 286, Wingham : Visited on March 3rd at the regular meeting. R. W. Bro. J. A. Morton, P. D. D. G. M., who has for some years discharged the duties of Secretary, was, to my regret, unavoidably absent. W. Bro. Dr Tamblyn, the first Master, and who, I believe, is in many ways the father of the lodge, was in his place. The attendance was large. W. Bro. Hally, W. M., conferred the second degree, and the known efficiency of the work done in this lodge for some years is a guarantee of the way the work was done by him and his officers.

Northern Light, No. 93, Kincardine: I visited here on March 4th at a regular. This is the oldest, the strongest and wealthiest lodge in the district. The attendance was very large, many visiting brethren being present. The lodge was opened in all the degrees and the first degree exemplified by W. Bro. F. Collins in a very effective manner. The books are kept in first-class shape, and I understand the lodge prides itself in having had them so kept by their very efficient Secretary, Bro. Hall, for some years. It is needless to say that R. W. Bros. Dr. D. H. Martyn and D. Collins, P. D. D. G. M's., were present.

Bruce, No. 341, Tiverton : Visited here on March 5th at an emergency. A large number of the brethren from Northern Light, including R. W. Bro. Martyn, W. Bros. Macpherson, Collins, Clark and Tolme, accompanied me on my visit. This lodge, although not large in numbers, is one of the best working in the district, largely owing I understand to the friendly and truly Masonic spirit existing between them and the brethren of Northern Light. The third degree was conferred by the W. M. W. Bro. Henders and his officers in a manner which reflects credit on Bruce Lodge.

Hanover, No. 432, Hanover : Visited this lodge at an emergency on March 9th. The lodge is weak in numbers and indifferent in its work, partly owing, I believe, to having lately lost some of its effective workers. The W. M. W. Bro. Penton and the Wardens appear to take an interest in the work, and I trust have since inspired a better spirit in the lodge. The lodge-room is not attractively furnished, and the attendance was small. The lodge was opened and closed in the degrees fairly well Hanover is a thriving village, and I see no reason why an excellent lodge should not be maintained here.

Saugeen, No. 197, Walkerton : Visited here at the regular

on March 10. I found a large turnout of brethren in a very comfortable, well furnished, lodge room. R. W. Bro. Telford, P. D. D. G. M., V. W. Bros. Green and Harris, and a large number of P. M.'s were present. The second degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Dr. Dickinson, W. M., and his officers, and was well done. The high standard of work in this lodge is well known in the district.

Moravian Lodge, No. 431, Eden Grove: Visited here at an emergency on March 11th. I had the honor of the presence and assistance R. W. Bro. Telford, of Saugeen Lodge, who was accompanied by many of the brethren of his lodge, and there werealso a number of visitors from Bruce and Aldworth Lodges. W. Bro. Dr. Morrison, W. M., conferred the third degree, and I was much pleased with his work and that of his officers, as I consider I saw no better work at any of my visits in the district. The books are well kept. This lodge is not large in numbers but the officers are ambitious in their work. W. Bro. Thos. Pinkerton, P. M., is justly entitled to a large measure of credit therefor.

Aldworth, No. 235, Paisley: Visited at an emergency, March 12th. I found a fair attendance, amongst whom was their venerable and respected Tyler, W. Bro. McGraw, who has the honor of being a Master Mason for about fifty-four years. This lodge is showing marked improvement in work. It was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree exemplified by W. Bro. W. R. Barnett, W. M., in an easy and effective manner. The other officers were efficient.

Port Elgin, No. 429, Port Elgin: I also visited here at an emergency on March 13th, but found a large attendance of members and visitors from St. Lawrence Lodge The lodge has an able and capable W. M. in W. Bro. Elliott, who conferred the second degree very creditably. The other officers also appear well up in their work. The books are well kept and the lodge in good financial standing. The brethren hope to have a larger lodge room at an early date.

Maple Leaf, No. 362, Tara: Visited this lodge at a regular on March 24 and was welcomed by R. W. Bro. Dr. Wilson, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. McDonald. The attendance was large, there being visitors from Forest, Port Elgin, Burns, Cedar and other lodges. Maple Leaf has been doing excellent work for several years past, and its reputation is well sustained by its present W. M., W. Bro. Dr. McNally, who conferred the third degree in able manner and was ably supported by his officers. R. W. Bro. Bruce, P. D. D. G. M., it is needless to say, was present.

St. Lawrence, No. 131, Southampton: Visited here at a

regular on March 31st, on which occasion I was accompanied by my District Secretary, W. Bro. Ferguson, Bros. McKenzie, McAulay and Knight, of Cedar Lodge, and the numerous breakdowns which occurred during our long drive were at least amusing if somewhat uncomfortable. This is the second oldest lodge in the district. The lodge-room is owned by the craft, and its financial position is very satisfactory. The first degree was exemplified by the W. M., W. Bro. C. M. Bowman, and his officers in an able and pleasing manner. St. Lawrence is in safe hands.

Bernard, No 225, Listowel: My visit to Bernard was on April 24th, and the kindly welcome extended to me on my arrival by R. W. Bro. Col. D. D. Campbell, P. D D. G. M., and W. Bro. B. F. Brook, will be long in my remembrance. This lodge possesses the largest and one of the best furnished lodge-rooms in the district, and is in a very prosperous condition. There is excellent material in Listowel, as was apparent to me from the number of young and capable brethren I noticed in the respective chairs. The first degree was conferred by W. Bro. H. B. Murphy, W. M., in a very satisfactory manner, and all his officers were well posted in their work. The duties of Secretary are faithfully discharged by W. Bro. Foster. This lodge has a long list of capable P. M.'s and the present incumbent of the chair is no exception. Col. Campbell's influence and example is apparent in the lodge.

Burns (U. D.), Hepworth: I have before alluded to this lodge. I found on my official visit that satisfactory progress was being made, the work being efficiently done. W. Bro. J. E Campbell, W. M., is a P. M. of Cedar Lodge, and had previously proved himself to be well qualified to instruct and guide a new lodge. He is ably supported by his officers, and they conferred the F. C. degree in a creditable manner. I was accompanied by my District Secretary and other members of Cedar Lodge on my visit.

Forest, No. 393, Chesley: I visited here on June 2nd. There was a fair attendance. The entered apprentice degree was exemplified by W. Bro. J. Adolph, W. M., assisted by W. Bro. C. J. Mickle, P. M., and the work was well done. The other officers are highly efficient, and the books well kept. The P. M.'s do not appear to attend regularly I regret to state. This lodge, however, has a high reputation for good work and I think the W. M. will keep up its reputation if properly supported by the P. M 's.

Cedar Lodge, No. 396, Wiarton: This is my own lodge, and I have attended all its meetings during the past year, except when officially absent. I am pleased to state that good

work is being done under my District Secretary, W. Bro. W. J. Ferguson, as W. M. His Wardens and other officers are efficient. All the degrees have been conferred by him. Cedar is steadily progressing, and its prospects are bright.

The above list includes all the lodges in my district, and I am happy to be able to state that I believe Masonry is making satisfactory progress, not only as regards the quality of the work but also as to the character and qualifications of the candidates for its mysteries. I find that more care is being taken in properly preparing candidates for advancement, and in the W. M.'s requiring more attention to detail on the part of the junior officers in their share of the work. I have found marked improvement in the character of the floor work.

The corner stone of a new Presbyterian Church at the village of Glammis was laid on the 26th day of June, with the usual impressive ceremonies, by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, D. G. M., acting on behalf of the M. W. the Grand Master, on which occasion I had the pleasure of meeting many of the members of Grand Lodge. The proceedings were conducted under the auspices of Moravian Lodge, No. 431, and reflected credit upon that lodge.

I had intended holding a Lodge of Instruction in the north-westerly portion of the district, but the advent of the general elections interfered with my plans.

I have found harmony to prevail, and have not had a single complaint brought to my attention.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks to the brethern for the uniform courtesy and kindness shown to me in my high office, and to the R. W. the Past District Deputy Grand Masters and other distinguished brethren for their assistance and advice, and to the Craft generally for the hospitality and kindly manner in which I was everywhere received.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JAMES WALMSLEY, D. D. G. M.,
North Huron District, No. 5.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Table showing the work done in North Huron District, No. 5, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degre's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. Work all degrees	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.										
93	North'n L't	Kincardine.....	92	3	7	2	0	0	1	...	2	4	...	1	14	2	16	25	$128 19	5	$136 00	June 24, '96.	$4122 86	Good.	Yes	$2600 00
131	St. Lawr'ce	Southampton..	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....
162	Forest.....	Wroxeter.....	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....
184	Old Light..	Lucknow.....	44	3	4	2	3	2	1	1	2	1	...	1	13	2	15	14	5 00	7	19 00	Dec. 30, '95.	$70 41	Good.	Yes	800 00
197	Saugeen	Walkerton	46	2	5	1	4	1	0	1	3	0	...	2	13	2	15	18	.....	3	11 80	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	540 00
225	Bernard	Listowel	76	0	3	2	3	3	1	0	4	2	...	1	14	2	16	20	10 00	6	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	$150 00	Good.	Yes	750 00
235	Aldworth..	Paisley.....	47	3	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	...	0	11	2	13	12	11 00	18	81 60	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	.....
276	Teeswater.	Teeswater.....	28	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	...	1	11	1	12	10	.....	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	$37 35	Fair.	Yes	200 00
284	St. John's..	Brussels.	54	1	...	...	2	2	0	3	3	2	...	1	12	1	13	15	.....	7	75 00	Dec. 27, '95.	.....	Fair.	Yes	350 00
286	Wingham ..	Wingham.....	47	2	0	6	5	4	1	...	1	4	...	...	13	1	14	18	.....	0	19 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	None.
331	Fordwich ..	Fordwich.....	30	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	...	0	10	0	10	10	5 00	4	26 00	June 24, '96.	Fair.	Not Bri't	Yes	150 00
341	Bruce.....	Tiverton.....	54	1	5	1	1	1	0	2	3	0	...	2	14	2	16	14	.....	21	76 00	Feb. 3, '96.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	600 00
362	Maple Leaf	Tara.....	41	3	2	3	1	2	...	...	2	...	...	0	6	0	6	20	5 00	....	29 00	Dec. 27, '95.	$75 00	Good.	Yes	350 00
393	Forest.....	Chesley.....	30	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	1	12	15	42 50	4	22 00	Dec. '95.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
396	Cedar.....	Wiarton.....	53	6	4	3	3	2	1	1	3	2	...	0	13	11	14	18	15 00	3	14 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
429	Port Elgin.	Port Elgin.....	30	4	0	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	...	1	13	6	19	11	.....	0	19 75	Dec. 27, '95.	$91 37	Good.	Yes	None.
431	Moravian...	Eden Grove....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....
432	Hanover....	Hanover.....	14	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	1	10	8	.....	2	26 00	June 24, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.
ud	Burns.	Hepworth	21	5	...	3	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	6	12	.....	....	.....	.....	Good	Good.	Yes	300 00

WILSON DISTRICT NO. 6.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution I have the honor to submit the following report upon the condition of the craft in the Sixth Masonic District, designated Wilson District, for the past twelve months.

I have endeavored to discharge the duties appertaining to the office of D. D. G. M. of the district to the best of my ability by visiting all the lodges in the district, inspecting the books and accounts of the same, and giving prompt attention to all communications addressed to me in my official capacity.

In making my official visits I find that a large majority of the lodges in the district are in a very prosperous condition, presided over by bright, enthusiastic Masons, brethren well skilled in the work, and who have the interest and well being of their respective lodges at heart, and who appear thoroughly to understand the duties of their office.

During my official visits I have been most invariably accompanied by a number of the brethren from Woodstock and other places in the district, and I have to acknowledge the kind assistance rendered not only as an encouragement to myself, but a benefit to the district. I have also to notice the attendance of the lodges officially visited by a large number of brethren from surrounding lodges.

During the year I have installed the officers of the following lodges : Norfolk, No. 10, Simcoe ; Oak Branch, No 261, Innerkip ; and King Solomon, No. 43, Woodstock. R. W. Bros. Gavin Stewart and D. H. Hunter ably assisted me in installing the officers of the last named lodge.

I am happy to be able to report generally that the craft throughout the district is in a very thriving and flourishing condition. I have found a universal desire for instruction in the work adopted by the Grand Lodge, and in many instances the progress made has been extremely satisfactory.

I find throughout the whole of this large territory universal harmony, and I am most gratified to report that nothing has occurred throughout the lodges of my district to mar their prosperity, either between the lodges or its members. The pure principles of our noble institution have stood us well in hand, and aided many times and in many places to tone down

the passions of heated debate during the excitement of political campaigns which have recently closed. In no instance did I find the slightest trace of discord or bitterness in the lodges during this most exciting period This is as it should be. The threshold of a Masonic lodge must always be the line over which party spirit must not pass.

My official visits were made as follows :

Burford Lodge, No. 106, Burford Village, on September 4th, 1895. Although the night was very wet and disagreeable I was accompanied by several of my Woodstock brethren, and the spacious hall was well filled by distinguished members of the craft from Brantford and other places. I would mention that I was not surprised at the W. M. displaying a certain amount of nervousness in being surrounded with such an array of Masonic talent. A most pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment was the presentation of an address to R. W. Bro. W. F. Miles, which was handsomely engrossed on sheepskin by Bro. Chas. Iles, of Oxford Lodge, the same being accompanied with a handsome P. D. D. G. Master's regalia, to which R. W. Bro. Miles made a kind and fraternal reply. The second degree was exemplified most creditably, and the other work, and a most agreeable evening spent afterwards under the supervision of the J. W.

On the 20th September, 1895, I visited St. John's Lodge, No. 68, Ingersoll, being accompanied thither by several Past Masters and brethren of my own town to the number of about eighteen, and being introduced by R. W. Bro. Walsh and W. Bro. Morrison. W. Bro. Dougan officiated in his capacity as W. M. and exemplified the second degree most creditably. After the lodge duties were performed, the brethren repaired to the Mansion House where Bro. Thomas Lavin provided a most sumptuous repast. Eloquent speeches were made by R. W. Bros. Hunter, Walsh, Eden, Martin, Fulton, W. Bros. Morrison, and Bro. Dr. McLay and others, the meeting separating at midnight with the J. W. toast, after a very enjoyable time being spent.

I paid my official visit to Vittoria Lodge, No. 359, on Wednesday, the 27th September, 1895, accompanied by sixteen of the brethren from Simcoe, including R. W. Bro. Wells and V. W. Bro. Atkinson and W. Bros. Reid and Kelly, and introduced to the lodge by R. W. Bro. Dr. Kennedy, P. D. D. G M. of Wilson District. The W. M., Bro. Wm. Mitchell, exemplified the second degree by taking a volunteer candidate, and the work was fairly well done. Refreshments were afterwards served in the lodge-room, when speeches were made by R. W. Bro. Wells, Kennedy and W. Bros. Reid, Kelly and

Mitchell, and after a very convivial evening separating happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

I paid my official visit to St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris, on Tuesday, 29th October, 1895. I was accompanied by V. W. Bro. J. S. Scarff and Bro. Crooker, of Woodstock, and introduced by R. W. Bro. Cox, P. D. D. G. M. of this district. W. Bro. W. W. Patterson, W. M., in the chair. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, the work being done very skilfully, there being quite a large contingent of the craft from Princeton, Plattsville, Burford and Woodstock. The brethren were afterwards entertained at the Arlington in Mr. Eland's best style, after which speeches were made by R. W. Bro. Cox, V. W. Bros. Scarf, Baird, Patterson, Smiley, and others, and separated after the usual toast being given.

On the 4th November, 1895, I paid my official visit to King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg, accompanied by V. W. Bro. J. S. Scarff, and Bro. John Spence, of Brantford, and introduced by R. W. Bro. Wm. McDonald, P. D D. G. M. of the district. W. Bro. M. A. Hogan, W. M., officiating. The first degree was conferred in what I considered a first-class manner. A large attendance of the craft being present. I complimented the W. M. and officers on the excellent manner the work was done. After the work in the lodge the members repaired to refreshment, which constituted a grand banquet, at which pithy and interesting speeches were made, and the brethren dispersed after a most enjoyable evening.

My next official visit was made to Erie Lodge, No. 149, Port Dover, on the 2nd December, 1895. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. W. Bro. C. Matthews, W. M., presiding ; the work was fairly well done. Bro. J. Varey I found to be a most competent and efficient Secretary, his books being kept in a most neat and accurate style. After routine business the craft was entertained to refreshment in the hall adjoining the lodge room, and a pleasant time spent. There is a charity fund in connection with this lodge, having a surplus of $650. We had Rev. Bro. Wright, of Manitoba, and W. Bro. Wood, of Vittoria, with us.

Visited St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich, on the 4th December, 1895, accompanied by several of the Woodstock brethren, including Bros. Scarff, Odlem, Bartlett, Morrison, McLay, Rapson, Abell, Percy, Bickle, Watt, Iles, and others, and introduced by R. W. Bro. Dr. McCurdy, P. D. D. G. M. of the district. W. Bro. James Irwin in the chair, and Bro. J. L. Harrington, Secretary. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degree in a very efficient and creditable manner.

Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, Simcoe, the residence of our late

lamented Col. Wm. Mercer Wilson, for many years G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was visited by me on the 27th December last, 1895, and I installed the officers. V. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, W. M., and W. Bro. P. Kelly, Secretary. The lodge has been carried on in true Masonic style, with the assistance of Bro. Price, S. W., and Bro. Brooks, J. W. The second degree was exemplified by our old brother and veteran, Michael Harding, being passed. Fifty members of the lodge, which may be considered the nest-egg of Masonry, and brethren from Vittoria, Brantford and Toronto were present. A grant was made to hospital for sick children, Toronto. I would mention that no deaths occurred during the year, and that the lodge is prospering, and that peace and harmony and good will prevail within its borders.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 43, and Oxford Lodge, No. 76, were visited by me jointly on the 28th January last. I have much pleasure in stating that both lodges in Woodstock are in a satisfactory condition. Whilst regretting the ill health of W. M. Bro. Jas. F. McGachie, of King Solomon's Lodge almost since his installation, I am proud to say that some of his Masonic colleagues have not allowed the work to go backward on account of his unavoidable absence. I only hope that the Worshipful Brother will in the near future be enabled to assume whatever functions in the lodge may be assigned to him, he being a true and ardent member of the fraternity. The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. Bartlett, of King Solomon's Lodge, and his subordinates, and the other by W. Bro. Ure, and assistant officers of Oxford Lodge, which was done in such a manner as to elicit the approval of all present. After business the craft, numbering about 200, repaired to the banqueting hall and partook of a sumptuous supper provided by Bro. George Harwood in his usual good style.

Oak Branch Lodge, No. 261, Innerkip, was the next lodge I visited, accompanied by R. W. Bro. G. C. Eden, V. W. Bro. James Scarff, R. W. Bro. Griggs and others. W. Bro. Hopkins, W. M., presiding, and Bro. Whiteside, Secretary. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and elicited the applause and approval of the visiting brethren. I installed the officers elect for the ensuing year, after which the craft were right royally entertained at Bro. Tracksell's, and spent a very enjoyable time.

I visited King Hiram Lodge, No. 37, Ingersoll, on the 7th February last. W. M. Bro. Patterson presiding, and H. Rowland, Secretary. The first degree was ably exemplified by the initiation of a volunteer candidate by the W. M. in a most

creditable manner, and which elicited the general approval of the brethren.

I next visited Oriental Lodge, No. 181, Port Burwell, on the 25th February, 1896, joined by R. W. Bro. W. McDonald and six other brethren from Tilsonburg. No work being on hand the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, W. G. Burwell, W. M., with his efficient staff of subordinates assisting.

I paid my official visit to Blenheim Lodge, No. 108, Princeton, on the 28th February, 1896, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Hunter, and about twenty brethren from Woodstock. The lodge was opened up and closed in the three degrees. The officers seemed to know, and did their work very well. After the lodge was closed the craft adjourned to Strode's Hotel, where a magnificent repast was provided. After the banquet short addresses were given by a goodly number of the brethren.

Visited Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi, on the 23rd March, 1896. R. W. Bro. W. McDonald and six other brethren from Tilsonburg accompanied me. W. M. Geo. Jeffries presiding and A. W. Chrysler, Secretary. No work being on hand, the lodge was opened and closed and other little details performed well.

My duties called me to Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan, on the 26th March, 1896, although unaccompanied by any one. I had the satisfaction of witnessing three candidates being passed to the second degree, W. M. Frank Brock performing the functions of the chair most creditably, Bro. James Ryan acting as Secretary, in which capacity he is unparalleled, after which the brethren retired to the hotel where a most enjoyable time was spent.

I visited Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, on the 22nd April, 1896, the W. M., D. J. Horning, presiding, with A. S. Bale as Secretary. I was accompanied thither by R. W. Bro. Wells and several others from Simcoe. The second degree was exemplified in a most creditable style.

Having visited Vienna Lodge, No. 237, Vienna, there being no work on hand, W. M. C. E. Wilson with an efficient staff of officers opened and closed in the three degrees in a very creditable manner. I was accompanied there by R. W. Bro. McDonald, of Tilsonburg, and two other brethren.

On the 22nd May, 1896, I visited Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, Plattsville. Wor. Bro. A. Calder, W. M., presiding, with W. M. Veitch as Secretary. W. Bro Thomas West and Bros. Miller and McMahon accompanied me. Work was exemplified in a most satisfactory manner, and more. I had the

proud satisfaction of witnessing the sublime degree being conferred by our old and most esteemed Wor. Bro. Thomas Allshire upon his grandson. No other work being on hand a very pleasant and convivial evening was afterwards spent.

The visit to Scotland Lodge, No. 193, Scotland, was made by me on the 26th May, 1896, and I was assisted by my predecessor, R. W. Bro. W. F. Miles, P. D. D. G. M., who acted as Secretary, and informed me per written statement that he found the books neatly and accurately kept, with a membership of 50 and a good average attendance and the dues fairly well paid, and only about $60 in arrears, the lodge being free from liability, with a surplus on hand. The first degree was exemplified by initiating a candidate, which was done by the W. M., assisted by P. M. Dr. Glasford, W. Bro. Hooker and W. Bro. Merritt. A most enjoyable time was afterwards spent at Jackson's Hotel. A circumstance transpired at this communication that I cannot help but mention, which was the fact that Bro. Col. Thompson was present, hale and hearty, 97 years of age, and had been 76 years a Mason. Our venerable brother gave some very interesting accounts of Masonry in his youth as a man and a Mason, which were much enjoyed by all present.

My last visit to Thistle Lodge, No. 250, Embro, was made on the 11th June, 1896. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Robert Woodroofe and J. Lain, of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, W. Bros. J. Morrison, Ingersoll ; Dr. Bartlett, Dr. Clark, Ure ; J. Morrison, Woodstock ; P. Irving, James Smiley, Bro. J. A. McKenzie, and about 25 other brethren from Woodstock and vicinity. The first degree was exemplified by taking a volunteer candidate (Bro. Robert Geddes), the work being well done. Thistle Lodge constitutes a membership of about 30. Cash on hand, $50. After routine business the craft were entertained at refreshment in the lodge-room, and a very happy time spent, leaving the Forest Village with Auld Lang Syne.

My warmest thanks are due to W. Bro. John Morrison, of King Solomon's, No. 43, for the efficient and prompt manner in which he discharged the various duties assigned to him as District Secretary, thereby very materially assisting me in attending to the interests of the brethren of the district.

AT REST.

The following deaths have been reported during the year, viz. : V. W. Bro. Hugh Kerr, aged 60 years, P. M. of St. John's Lodge, No. 68, Ingersoll, died 12th March, 1896 ; Bro. Robert Dunlop, M. M., aged 68 years, of St. John's Lodge, Inger-

soll, was called to his eternal home, July 12th, 1895; King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg, mourns the loss of two brethren, in the persons of Bro. John Hutchison, M. M., aged 62 years, who died December 21st, 1895, and Bro. George Bennet, M. M., aged 46 years, who was summoned to rest May 20th, 1896; Bro. William Ross, M. M., and Bro. John A. Stearns, M. M., both charter members of Walsingham Lodge, No. 74, were summoned to that abode from whence no traveller returns; Bro. Dr. George Duncan, M. M., a member of Thistle Lodge, No. 250, Embro, "passed behind that door that never swings outward" at the ripe age of 76 years.

To my predecessors in office I extend my warmest thanks for counsel cheerfully given whenever sought, and without being invidious I would make special mention of R. W. Bros. W. H. Hunter, William McDonald, George C. Eden, Peter H. Cox, Gilbert Wells, J. C. Hegler and W. F. Miles, whose comprehensive knowledge has always been at my disposal.

In closing my report I must express my gratification and sincere thanks to the officers and brethren of the district for the universal kindness, attention, and fraternal welcome with which I was received when paying my official visits, and pray that it may please the G. A. O. T. U. long to continue the harmony that prevails among the brethren of Wilson District.

All of which is fraternally submltted.

GEO. J. FRASER, D. D. G. M.,
Wilson District, No. 6.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Wilson District, No. 6, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.										
10	Norfolk	Simcoe	83	8	...	8	5	6	2	...	2	...	...	...	12	1	13	25	$75 00	8	$ 50 60	June 24, '96	Good.	Bright.	Yes	600 00
37	King Hir'm	Ingersoll	...	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	14	13	.....	34	275 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	15 00
43	King Sol'n.	Woodstock	88	...	12	2	3	3	...	...	...	4	...	...	12	3	15	16	15 00	14	124 00	June 24, '95	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	1125 00
68	St. John's	Ingersoll	66	8	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	2	16	17	5 00	9	60 00	June 26, '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	Fully.
76	Oxford	Woodstock	103	7	3	4	4	5	3	...	3	...	...	...	14	3	17	20	10 00	36	220 25	Jan. 12, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
78	King Hir'm	Tilsonburg	115	13	...	13	10	9	...	...	...	2	...	...	14	3	17	35	39 75	26	156 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	300 00
82	St. John's	Paris	50	...	3	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	...	12	2	14	15	21 45	5	71 72	June 24, '96	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
104	St. John's	Norwich	85	3	6	3	3	1	...	...	4	2	...	...	10	1	11	23	60 00	16	78 00	June 24, '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
106	Burford	Burford	75	5	...	5	6	7	...	...	1	2	...	...	12	4	16	24	10 00	39	180 50	June 24, '95	Good.	Frir.	Yes	2000 00
108	Blenheim	Princeton	25	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	2	15	12	.....	8	45 75	Dec. 31, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	100 00
113	Wilson	Waterford	41	3	12	2	2	3	...	1	3	9	...	1	12	2	14	15	.....	.....	33 45	June 24, '95	.....	Fair.	Yes	650 00
149	Erie	Port Dover	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	15	.....	23	120 00	Dec., '95....	Fair.	Fair.	No.	600 00
174	Walsing'm.	Port Rowan	...	6	7	3	3	2	3	...	1	3	...	2	12	1	13	14	.....	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Splendid	Yes	1200 00
178	Plattsville	Plattsville	42	3	2	3	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	1	13	1	14	16	18 00	10	27 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	250 00
181	Oriental	Port Burwell	29	2	3	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	12	...	12	8	.....	7	40 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
193	Scotland	Scotland	55	3	...	3	3	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	2	14	24	30 00	16	67 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
217	Frederick	Delhi	43	2	...	4	5	6	...	...	2	...	...	...	15	1	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	.....	Good.	Yes	200 00
237	Vienna	Vienna	38	3	1	3	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	3	16	11	10 00	21	130 10	June 24, '95	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	Yes.
250	Thistle	Embro	30	5	1	5	4	3	...	...	...	3	...	1	11	4	15	10	.....	11	86 42	Jan., '96	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	None.
261	Oak Br'nch	Innerkip	22	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	12	3	15	12	5 00	4	12 50	June 24, '96	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
359	Vittoria	Vittoria	35	1	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	3	12	...	12	15	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96	Fair.	Fair.	No.	400 00

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers, and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario,

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

It is with pleasure that I submit for your consideration my report upon the condition of the craft in Wellington District, No. 7.

The true spirit of Masonry animates the brethren of the various lodges, and as a result the year has been replete with evidences of effective attention to the exclusion of unworthy material. The portals have been closely guarded and the moral qualifications of candidates most strictly enquired into, discipline enforced, and the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge generally observed and respected. The brethren understand that Masonry is something higher, nobler and better than a mere mutual aid association. They are largely endowed with the ethical principles of Masonry, embracing every moral maxim involved in the highest type of manhood.

I have officially visited every lodge in this district, and if, after the exceptionally able brethren who have preceded me and whose good work will be long felt in this district, I may have fallen short in the performance of my duty, I can truly say it has not been through lack of zeal in the cause. On the occasion of each visit I took especial pains to impress upon the members of the different lodges the necessity of carrying out the spirit of true Masonic charity whenever occasion presented, and am pleased to report that in no instance did I find this duty neglected. During the year several of the brethern have been called upon by the great leveller, death, to lay down their working tools and retire from their labors to the Grand Lodge above.

Bro. Nokes, of Blair Lodge, No. 314, Palmerston, was personally known to the brethren from Southampton to Hamilton, and no death will leave a greater void in Masonic circles than that of the late V. W. Bro. Nokes.

I granted a dispensation to Irvine Lodge, Elora, No. 203, to walk in procession and wear regalia to divine service on October 13, 1895.

My first official visit was to Galt Lodge, No. 257, Galt, on 3rd September, 1895. Here I was warmly welcomed by W. Bro. Greenhill, who initiated a candidate in a very able and efficient manner. All the officers kept closely to the ancient

landmarks. The meeting place is commodious and convenient for the work. The brethren have the true Masonic ring about them, and are very hospitable, Bro. Cowan being a host in himself.

New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hespeler: Visited this lodge on 4th September, 1895. I found the true spirit of Masonry infused into the brethren, R. W. Bro. Jardine being kindness itself. There being no work, Bro. Jardine opened in the three degrees and examined on the questions for advancement. This lodge is in fine shape and doing good work. All the officials are well up in their work.

Waverly Lodge, No. 361, Guelph: Visited this lodge 29th October, 1895 W. Bro. Nisbit in the East conferred two degrees on candidates. The work was beautifully done and the music appropriate. I was received with great kindness and cannot but thank R. W. Bro. Pettiford for his assistance and the kindly way he treats the representative of the Grand Master.

Alma Lodge, No. 72, Galt: Visited this lodge on 30th October, 1895, the Master, Bro. Kennedy, officiating. This lodge is well officered and well sustain their reputation, R. W. Bro. Taylor's influence being still felt. Three candidates were passed that evening, one at a time. They have a beautiful lodge-room. The members all try to be a help in the work of Masonry. They are benevolent to those in need, are kind and courteous, young and ardent.

Ayr Lodge, No. 172, Ayr: Visited this lodge on the 31st October, 1895, and found V. W. Bro. Willison in the chair in the absence of the W. M. He opened in the three degrees. Love and harmony exist among the brethren. They are in hopes of a revival shortly, the removal of the Watson employees having been a drain on the lodge. I was well received.

Harriston Lodge, No 262, Harriston: Visited this lodge on the 11th November, 1895. The W. M., Bro. Campbell, initiated two candidates in his usual impressive manner. The room is large and beautifully furnished. The brethren are full of that Masonic charity which is love, and I received great kindness at their hands.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334, Arthur: Visited this lodge on 26th November, 1895. W. Bro. S. Neill in the chair. Being night of election no work was done. The officers are all efficient, and the members are full of Masonic ardor. I found them ready for any good work. They have a comfortable lodge room.

Scott Lodge, No. 421, Grand Valley: Visited this lodge on

27th November, 1895, and was met by the genial R. W. Bro. Hopkins and W. Bro. Wilson, who conducted me to the lodge. There being no work the lodge was opened in the several degrees in their nice comfortable room. This lodge is prosperous and in good shape.

Mercer Lodge, No. 347, Fergus: Visited this lodge on 6th December, 1895, and was received with great cordiality by Bros. Reid, Phillips and Bayne. After election of officers W. Bro. Bayne initiated a candidate in a very correct and able manner, and was well supported by his officers. This lodge makes a good showing, and seems to have Masonry at heart. I trust they will go on and prosper.

Guelph Lodge, No. 258, Guelph: Visited this lodge on 10th December, 1895, and was again received with the greatest kindness by R. W. Bro. Pettiford, R. W. Bro. Scoon, and W. Bro. Higham. The Master, W. Bro. Higham, initiated one candidate and raised one in an exceptionally correct manner. Assisted by the W. Master I healed Bro. McDowell in due and ancient form.

Irvine Lodge, No. 203, Elora: Visited this lodge on 20th December, 1895, and was heartily received by W. Bro. Burns, R. W. Bro. Smith and Bro. Dalby. They have a commodious lodge room comfortably furnished. The books are well kept. They use the Model Register, which I would recommend for every lodge. Bro. Burns, W. M., exemplfied the third degree in an earnest and correct manner. The floor work was well done by the other officers. Harmony prevails here.

Speed Lodge, No. 180, Guelph: Visited this lodge on 27th December, 1895, and received a royal reception from R. W. Bro. J. Scoon, Bro. Clark and Bro. Collins. The work done was installing officers by W. Bro. Tovel in an able and expressive manner All the Guelph lodges are well conducted and the portals are being well guarded now, and the spirit of true Masonry exemplified.

Wellington Lodge, No. 271, Erin: Visited this lodge on 12th February, 1896, and was welcomed with the utmost cordiality by Bro. Brodie at the railway station. W. Bro. Graham opened in three degrees. All the officers did excellently. R. W. Bro. Conboy and several distinguished brethren from Georgetown, came through the snow drifts to be present at the opening of the new lodge room which is very convenient for the work and comfortable for the members. The financial condition of the lodge is very good. The new furniture is all paid for and several hundred dollars are to the good. A pleasant profitable evening was spent.

Grand River Lodge, No. 151, Berlin: Visited this lodge

on 10th March, 1895, and was warmly received by Bro. Cornell and Bro. Oelschlager. There was no work on hand. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a pleasant and profitable time spent among the kind-hearted brethren. They have a spacious room and are well up in the work. They are full of Masonic charity and benevolence.

Preston Lodge, No. 297, Preston: Visited this lodge on 27th March, 1896. The brethren are diligent workers, kind and affable. One candidate was passed and one raised by the W. Master. The work was done correctly and impressively. He was assisted by some of the Past Masters. The zeal for Masonry here is on the increase, and it is pleasant to know that they have such a comfortable lodge-room.

Blair Lodge, No. 214, Palmerston: Visited this lodge on 3rd April, 1896. Was very warmly received by R. W. Bro. Hyndman and his worthy son, V. W. Bro. Hyndman, who occupied the chair and initiated a candidate in his usual correct manner. The room is comfortable and the officers are all well up in their work. I had long looked forward to meeting Bro. Nokes and receiving a welcome from him in his own lodge, having known him personally for the past twenty years, but death had claimed him, and this should lead us so to order our lives that we may thereby commend to others the principles we profess. These V. W. Bro. Nokes exemplified in his life and conduct. He will be missed in Blair Lodge, where he was an eminent and a worthy officer. One other death occurred in this lodge The brethren had been helpful to him during his life.

> "Take them, O Great Eternity,
> Our little life is but a gust,
> That hands the branches of Thy tree,
> And trails its blossoms in the dust."

Durham Lodge, No. 306, Durham: Visited this lodge 21st April, 1896. The lodge is in fair shape as far as funds are concerned, and the brethren are benevolent to those in need A candidate was passed to the second degree by W. Master Campbell. The work was well done. There are as fine a lot of Masons in Durham Lodge as can be found anywhere and they are full of Masonic ardor. The officers are well up in their work and are simply kindness itself.

St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, Mount Forest: Visited this lodge 24th April, 1896, and found the brethren in a fine, large room, well furnished. W. Bro. T. R. Glanville in the chair. Some of the brethren are in arrears for dues. The lodge was opened in the several degrees in a correct manner. The breth-

ren treated me with the utmost cordiality, among others W. Bro. M. O. Macgregor, who is an old and respected Mason.

Conestogo Lodge, No. 295, Drayton: Visited this lodge on 28th April, 1896, and found the brethren eager, anxious, kind hearted Masons. The lodge room is large and well furnished. The officers were kind and affable. One candidate was passed and another raised W. Bro. Smith is a host and well up in Masonry. There was an election of Master, the present one having resigned, being about to leave the vicinity Average attendance good. Called on Bro. Woods, who is suffering from a paralytic stroke. He returned his thanks to the brethren of the district for assistance.

Harris Lodge, No. 210, Orangeville: Visited this lodge on 19th May, 1896. There I was kindly welcomed by Bro. Mann, W. Bro. Fraser, R. W. Bro. McLaren and R. W. Bro. Fox. No work on hand, but a very pleasant and profitable time was spent with the brethren in their large, well furnished room. The qualities we like in men, generosity, truth, trustfulness, unselfishness, were part of the subjects touched upon with other topics for the good of Masonry. Harris is a large and properous lodge of kind-hearted Masons.

Clifford, Lodge, No. 315, Clifford: Visited this lodge on 15th June, 1896. It being my own lodge I was received with all the honors and respect the brethren could show me. Work on hand was one initiation and one passing. The W. M. Bro. M. B. Mathewson, conferred the degrees in his correct and impressive manner, assisted by Past Masters J. D. Allan, E. Tolton and A. S. Allan. Perfect harmony reigns in this lodge, and it is in good financial standing. The membership is increasing. There was a good turn out, it being night for electing officers, as well as my official visit. I feel grateful to the members of this lodge as well as to all the brethren in the district for their kindness and helpfulness during my term of office.

In conclusion I wish to tender my sincere thanks to the brethren of Wellington District for the fraternal manner in which I have been received.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

James S. Dewar, D. D. G. M.,
Wellington District, No. 7.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Wellington District, No. 7, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year.	Membership. Decrease during year	Degree's conf'r'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
72	Alma	Galt	94	7	...	4	4	2	3	...	2	...	...	...	11	1	12	26	45 00	3	$17 00	Dec., '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$ 900 00
151	Gr'nd Riv'r	Berlin	89	2	...	3	4	5	3	...	2	1	...	2	13	3	16	28	20 00	....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	700 00
172	Ayr	Ayr	28	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	9	9	.....	4	30 00	June, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
180	Speed	Guelph	81	2	15	2	2	4	...	...	7	8	...	...	13	..	13	25	30 75	30	200 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
200	St. Albans	Mount Forest	44	3	4	3	2	3	...	...	...	3	...	1	14	...	14	16	10 00	9	75 00	June 27, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	550 00
203	Irvine	Elora	44	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	10	2	12	13	14 35	3	9 40	June 24, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
216	Harris	Orangeville	124	1	22	...	1	1	...	...	3	19	...	...	11	1	12	32	66 50	19	88 75	Feb. 29, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	600 00
257	Galt	Galt	80	3	1	2	2	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	12	3	15	17	.....	14	127 08	June 24, '96.	Good.	V'y Quiet	Yes	800 00
258	Guelph	Guelph	80	...	2	2	3	2	4	...	3	5	...	...	13	...	13	26	27 25	23	125 65	June 25, '95.	F'ly Good	Fair.	Yes	.....
271	Wellington	Erin	40	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	...	12	13	25 00	10	28 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fav'r'ble	Yes	300 00
279	New Hope	Hespeler	57	2	1	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	13	...	13	18	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
295	Conestogo	Drayton	32	3	1	3	3	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	2	14	13	16 00	.....	.....	May 31, '95.	No f'ds	Good.	Fr'ly	400 00
297	Preston	Preston	25	4	1	3	3	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	12	...	12	12	.....	10	59 00	Dec. 27, '95.	No dbts	Improv'g	Yes	600 00
314	Blair	Palmerston	56	4	2	2	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	9	5	14	23	100 00	11	80 60	.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
315	Clifford	Clifford	29	3	...	3	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	9	2	11	9	5 00	6	27 75	June, '95.	Good.	Good.	1&2	None.
334	Prin'e Art'r	Arthur	38	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	3	11	15	.....	14	66 00	June 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
361	Waverly	Guelph	106	5	6	4	5	4	1	...	4	1	...	1	12	1	13	18	47 75	54	367 67	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1500 00
421	Scott	Grand Valley	40	5	1	5	5	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	1	14	12	10 00	6	41 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
306	Durham	Durham	42	2	6	2	1	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	15	4	19	13	103 00	2	10 00	July 2, '96.	V'y Good	Good.	Yes	None.
347	Mercer	Fergus	44	2	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	1	13	15	23 00	25	239 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
262	Harriston	Harriston	47	2	...	4	3	2	...	1	2	0	...	...	12	0	12	17	5 00	20	89 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500 00

HAMILTON DISTRICT No. 8

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Eighth Masonic District.

Having been honored by being elected to the important office of D. D. G. M. of the Hamilton District, I desire to thank my brethren for the kind recognition bestowed upon me, and the courteous and hospitable manner they have received me with on every occasion during the year.

My first appointment was that of W. Bro F. J. Howell, of Strict Observance, No. 27, Hamilton, as District Secretary, by whom I was assisted in my duties.

I visited every lodge in the district once, and in every case have endeavored to fill the responsible position to the best of my ability. Knowing that accuracy in the work of our beautiful ritual is most essential, I determined that my efforts should be in that direction, and in my visits endeavored to instruct as far as my own knowledge would permit, which I found was most acceptable to the brethren. I corrected when ever I found it necessary, and complimented only where it was deserved.

The harmony that exists throughout the whole district is most gratifying. Another pleasing feature is the frequent exchange of visits between lodges, which keeps the fire on the altar bright.

RELIEF.

The lodges of the district have in many cases given aid to many widows and brethren.

EXPENSES.

Expenses of the D. D. G. M. have been most willingly and voluntarily bestowed; in many cases my hotel charges were paid.

DEATHS.

During the year twenty-seven brethren have been called from active labor to, we hope, eternal rest. Acacia, No. 61, Hamilton, lost a zealous and worthy brother in the death of Duncan Robertson, who was J. W. at time of death.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued dispensations to the following lodges to attend

divine service: Seymour Lodge, No. 272, Ancaster, Sept. 22nd, 1895; Dufferin Lodge, No. 291, West Flamboro, Sept. 29th, 1895; Valley Lodge, No. 100, Dundas, Oct. 20th, 1895; St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, Milton, July 19th, 1896. The fees are hereby transmitted.

VISITS.

October 2nd, 1895: I visited Harmony Lodge, No. 57, Binbrook, the W. M. presiding. A fair attendance. The books are a model of neatness, kept by W. Bro. G. F. Senn. There was no work, but the opening and closing was done in a correct manner. After a pleasant evening spent with the brethren, had a delightful drive home in the bright moonlight, visitors from Wentworth Lodge and Hamilton being present.

October 26th, 1895: Visited Wentworth Lodge, No. 166, Stony Creek, W. M. E. Corman presiding. This lodge is in good condition; own building; room beautifully furnished. The town being on the line of the H. G. & B. Electric road, and being convenient, about fifty of the Hamilton brethren accompanied me. This lodge is well officered. We had a very enjoyable visit. On December 2nd, 1895, at the request of the W. M., I conducted the election of officers, when good and true brethren were elected.

October 30th, 1895: Visited Seymour Lodge, No. 272, Ancaster, W. Bro. Stewart, W. M., presiding. The third degree was conferred by him in an able manner. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition, financially and otherwise. W. Bro. Adams and officers of Dufferin Lodge were present.

October 31st, 1895: Visited Dufferin Lodge, No. 291, West Flamboro, W. Bro. Adams presided, and was ably assisted by an excellent staff of officers. Lodge in good standing with good prospects. Although this was a wet night there was a good attendance, including visitors from Dundas, Waterdown and Ancaster.

November 26th, 1895: Visited Waterdown, No. 357, Waterdown. Meeting presided over by the I. P. M., Bro. Flatt. A poor attendance. The affairs of this lodge are not satisfactory. I hope my successor will be able to give a better account of this lodge. What is wanting here is harmony, and energy might make this lodge a success. Since the foregoing was written a committee from the lodge waited upon me and expressed their fear that the warrant would have to be surrendered unless the removal of the lodge to Millgrove was permitted. I recommended my successor to adopt the course indicated.

November 27th, 1895: Visited Burlington Lodge, No. 165, Burlington, the W. M. presiding. Fair attendance. At

the request of the W. M., I conducted the election of officers who are proving themselves workmen who need not be ashamed. The lodge is now in a good condition, the Secretary being a very efficient officer.

December 10th, 1895: Visited Temple Lodge, No. 324, Hamilton, the W. M, W. Bro. D. Clark, presiding. Found thls lodge in a most satisfactory condition. At the request of the W. M., I conducted the election of officers. They were all brethren fully qualified to hold the positions to which they were elected. The average attendance has been about fifty.

December 13th, 1895: Visited Acacia Lodge, No. 61, Hamilton, W. M, Lyman Lee. This being my own lodge by affiliation I took more than ordinary pleasure in visiting and conducting the election of officers. This lodge is in every way in a prosperous condition, being well officered and very capable brethren coming on. I know of whom I speak, as I have been a member over 30 years. They were to be congratulated on having such a capable Master as W. Bro. Lyman Lee. This lodge lost a valuable member in the death of Bro. Duncan Robertson, Junior Warden.

December 19th, 1895: Visited St. John, No. 40, Hamil ton, the genial Bro. G. A. Cox, W. M., presiding. This has won and still retains the name of the banner lodge. I conducted the election of officers. A very large attendance, over 200 being present. We had a delightful evening. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition, being well officered, especially in having such an excellent Secretary as W. Bro. W. J. McAllister.

December 20th, 1895: Visited Strict Observance, No. 27, Hamilton, W. Bro. E. J. Moore presiding, and at whose request I conducted the election of officers. Found this lodge in a high state of efficiency. A good attendance, a very pleasant meeting The election was very unanimous.

January 27th, 1896: Visited Valley Lodge, Dundas, W. Bro. Cault presiding. The first degree was very well conferred by the W. M. Books very well kept by the Secretary, W. Bro. Latshaw, who is a most zealous and hardworking brother. This lodge has been very unfortunate in its officers leaving the town, but I am pleased to state that they have now a very good staff doing good work with good prospects. Here I had a large deputation accompany me, as it was good sleighing. Among whom were R. W. Bro. McCallum, Malloy, W. Bros. Cox, Elliott, Chisholm, McMichael, Cheyne, Burrel, and some twenty others from the city and the surrounding lodges, including W. Bro. Adams, Dufferin Lodge, West Flamboro, and

W. Bro. Stewart, Seymour Lodge, Ancaster. A very harmonious meeting.

February 24th, 1896: Visited St. Andrews, No. 62, Caledonia This was to me, I may say, the most interesting of my official visits, for in this lodge I first saw the light of Masonry, being initiated on the 29th day of April, 1863, by my late honored father, then W. M. of the lodge. I. P. M. Thompson presiding, the W. M. not feeling able for the occasion. Work very satisfactory. This lodge is now doing well, having some good material to select their officers from. There was a very large attendance, 73 being registered, some from long distances, including W. Bros. Clark and Adams of Eniskillen Lodge. A very large contingent accompanied me from the city, the list being too long to give names. It was an evening long to be remembered by me.

March 10th, 1896: Visited Brant Lodge, No. 45, Brantford. Here I found everything in excellent order. Books well kept. Had a very enjoyable visit. W. M. conferred the third degree in a very perfect manner. All the officers being well up in their duties. This being my first visit to the brethren of Brantford, I complimented them on their beautiful and well appointed lodge-room, the best furnished room in the district. It is lighted with electricity; the whole building is a model of neatness and convenience. I also met R. W. Bro. Heath, P. D. D. G. M., of this district. I regretted that I did not meet more of Doric Lodge members. My very efficient Secretary, W. Bro. Howell, was with me.

March 24th, 1896: Visited Oakville Lodge, No. 400, Oakville, W. M. Wilson presiding, whose work is most excellent. He is ably supported by his officers Books well and neatly kept by the very genial Secretary, Bro. Foster. This is one of the best worked lodges in the district, and is progressing favorably. I was accompanied by a good number of the brethren from the city, W. Bro. Dearing, of St. Clair Lodge, Milton, also being present.

March 26th, 1896: Visited St. George Lodge, No. 243, St. George, the W. Master presiding. Well up in his work, ably assisted by his officers. The attendance was small, but this was easily accounted for as the roads were very bad. The enthusiasm of the brethren made up for lack of numbers. This lodge is doing well; it is sure to prosper with the material they have. W. Bro. W. W. Greenhill acted as District Secretary.

May 15th, 1896: Visited Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford, W. M. presiding. This lodge is well officered. The work was well conducted throughout. Is in first class condition,

both financially and otherwise. They meet in same room as Brant Lodge, No. 45. A very pleasant meeting here. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Heath who is a member of this flourishing lodge, also W. Bro. J. G Liddell also a member who acted as District Secretary for me on that evening. I have the same regret to make here, that more of the Brant Lodge, No. 45, were not present, as I think that if these two city lodges were to visit each other it would be very pleasant for both.

May 21st, 1896 : Visited St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, Milton, the W. M. presiding Only a fair attendance. Work in every way satisfactory. The books are very neatly kept by W. Bro. Coates, the Secretary. The financial affairs of this Lodge are in a good healthy state. They have not done a great deal of degree work, but are well up in their ritual. Here I had the pleasure of meeting W. Bros. Watson and Roe also Bro. Heiley, of Credit Lodge, Georgetown. W. Bro. Watson kindly acted as my District Secretary.

March 22nd, 1896 : Visited Credit Lodge, No. 219, George town, W. Bro. Watson presiding. The S. W. and J. W. were unavoidably absent during the first part of the evening. They both arrived before the lodge closed. Their chairs were ably filled by W. Bro. Beaumont and W. Bro. Newton. The third degree was conferred most creditably. The lodge is in a very flourishing condition, excellent officers in all the chairs, and I am happy to say good material to follow. I went amongst them a perfect stranger, but I found them so truly fraternal that I felt as much at home as if I had been brought up amongst them. May they all live long and prosper. W. Bro. C C. Roe kindly acted as District Secretary.

June 8th, 1896 : Visited The Barton Lodge, No 6, Hamilton, where the genial W. Bro. J. S. Bicknell presided, at whose request I conducted the election of officers. This was the largest meeting I have had the pleasure of presiding over. There was a good attendance of the members, a large contingent from Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto, including W. Bro. McPherson Dowd, R. W. Bros. E, T. Malone and Tait and many other distinguished brethren and others from a distance. The election was most unanimous, and it was a fitting compliment to Bro. A. T. Freed that he was elected W. M , he being compiler of the Centennial History of The Barton Lodge.

I feel greatly pleased that I was elected to the high position of D. D. G. M. for this term in particular, it being the one hundredth anniversary of The Barton Lodge, to whom I feel deeply grateful for opportunities of visiting with them, Zetland,

No. 326, Toronto and Wentworth Lodge, No. 166, Stony Creek. I cannot close this report on The Barton Lodge without expressing my most sincere thanks to the brethren for the gifts presented to me which will be highly prized by myself and family, especially the excellent picture of the six Masters of 1895 and 1896 surrounding my own, When I look on their familiar faces I will remember with pleasure the happy meetings we had together. W. Bro. Lyman Lee acted as District Secretary.

June 15th, 1896: Visited Doric Lodge, No. 382, Hamilton, W. M. C. Kilgour presiding. A good attendance. It is not necessary for me to particularize the work, for we all know that it is well done. I presided at the election of officers, which passed off very unanimously. I regretted very much the absence of the Secretary, V. W. Bro. Dr. C. V. Emory, who was detained at home through illness. Many visitors were present, all the city lodges being well represented.

The circuit of my visitations was completed by visiting Walker Lodge, No. 321, Acton West, on June 29th, 1896. W. Bro. Shaw, an old P. M. of the lodge, presided. He has kindly consented to occupy the east to help the work along; on this occasion he conferred the third degree in a very creditable manner. I am very pleased to state this lodge is greatly improved since the visit of my predecessor, R. W. Bro. T. McCallum, and its prospects are good. The lodge is to be congratulated in having such an excellent Secretary as Bro. W. R. Kenny. On my arrival at Georgetown I was invited to drive to Acton West with about 20 of the brethren of Credit Lodge 219. Spent a delightful evening, and was most hospitably entertained.

I cannot conclude my report without thanking the brethren of the district for the universal courtesy and kindness shown to me during the year. I wish especially to thank the city lodges for their beautiful gifts. A gold ring, inscribed, from Acacia Lodge, No. 61, which reminds me of the mystic circle. St. John's Lodge, No. 40, for a lovely pipe, inscribed, to enable me to smoke the pipe of peace with my brethren. Doric, No. 382, for a beautiful gold mounted cane, inscribed, which, if spared, will be of great assistance to me when attending lodge in future years.

INSTALLATIONS.

Assisted by R. W. Bro. Gunn, R. W. Bro. McCallum, V. W. Bro. A. Smith, V. W. Bro C. Lemon, W. Bros. Lyman Lee, J. A. Cox, D. Clark, A. T. Neil, E. J. Moore, C. S. Kilgour, and by the District Secretary, F. J. Howell, and others, I installed the officers of Strict Observance, No. 27, St. John's,

No. 40, Acacia, No. 61, and Temple, No. 324, Lodges, on St. John the Evangelist Day, and the officers of The Barton, No. 6, and Doric, No. 382, on the Festival of St. John the Baptist.

In conclusion I desire to thank the brethren for their great kindness and assistance and sincerely hope that my successor may enjoy the office of D. D. G. M., as much as I have done.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEO. C. HOLDEN, D. D. G. M.,
Hamilton District, No. 8.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Hamilton District, No. 8, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degrees conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
6	The Barton	Hamilton	311	9	..	14	15	14	6	1	1	8	..	3	13	4	17	42	.....	67	$813 13	June 24, '96.	Excell'nt	V'y Good	Yes	Joint.
27	Strict Obs'r	Hamilton	250	2	..	8	9	8	4	..	..	4	5	..	1	13	1	14	53	$31 24	32	89 75	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Joint.
40	St. John's	Hamilton	347	29	..	28	25	21	6	2	3	9	..	4	13	9	22	44	84 00	64	281 00	June 24, '96.	1st Class	V'y Good	Yes	Joint.
45	Brant	Brantford	103	6	15	4	3	3	2	..	12	12	..	3	13	4	17	....	8 00	24	.....	Jan. 3, '96.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	$900 00
57	Harmony	Binbrook	56	..	12	1	2	2	..	..	2	10	..	1	11	2	12	18	.....	18	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good	Yes	800 00
61	Acacia	Hamilton	231	22	19	18	14	11	3	1	3	14	..	2	13	4	17	35	50 00	49	152 75	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Joint.
62	St. Andr'ws	Caledonia	40	11	2	10	9	7	1	..	1	1	..	..	13	7	20	18	.....	4	21 50	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	No.	150 00
100	Valley	Dundas	67	..	4	4	4	5	..	..	4	4	..	1	12	1	13	12	.....	21	172 21	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
121	Doric	Brantford	138	1	..	9	9	2	..	..	2	3	..	3	13	8	21	49	48 00	44	370 00	Jan. '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1500 00
135	St. Clair	Milton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	....	35 00	....	.....	.....	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	.....
165	Burlington	Burlington	47	2	..	3	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	2	13	1	13	14	.....	23	120 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	200 00
166	Went wo'th	Stony Creek	67	4	0	4	4	1	1	..	1	0	..	1	13	..	13	18	.....	24	109 00	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
219	Credit	Georgetown	64	10	1	6	6	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	13	2	15	20	31 65	18	100 00	Dec. 29, '95.	Good.	V'y Good	Yes	267 00
243	St. George	St. George	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
272	Seymour	Ancaster	37	3	10	3	3	3	..	3	0	10	1	11	3	3	14	12	5 00	17	76 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	250 00
291	Dufferin	West Flamb'o	37	2	2	1	3	3	1	..	..	1	..	1	12	2	14	12½	10 00	10	65 00	June 24, '96.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	200 00
321	Walker	Acton West	27	1	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	12	..	12	10	.....	8	73 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	Yes.
324	Temple	Hamilton	211	3	..	13	13	7	1	..	4	1	..	3	14	2	15	45	.....	29	79 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	A 1	Yes	Joint,
357	Waterd'wn	Waterdown	39	2	5	..	..	..	..	2	5	..	..	..	6	1	7	10	.....	15	62 00	Dec 27, '94.	V'y Poor.	V'y Poor.	N'o	None.
382	Doric	Hamilton	152	3	..	10	10	9	..	2	4	1	..	4	13	2	15	31	20 00	80	306 25	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Joint.
400	Oakville	Oakville	86	...	6	1	4	4	..	1	3	4	..	1	14	1	15	25	.....	22	264 47	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren :

I have the honor herewith to present to you my report on the condition of Masonry in the Ninth Masonic District, and in doing so I take the opportunity of thanking the brethren of this district for the honor they conferred on me by electing me by acclamation their D. D. G M., and further for the kind and courteous manner in which they received and treated me during my term of office.

My first official act was the appointment of W. Bro. O. H. Lyon, W. M. of Kerr Lodge, No. 230, as District Secretary, and who I wish here to thank for his able assistance during my term. I also appointed the Rev. Dr. Harper, of Kerr Lodge, No. 230, District Chaplain.

On my official visit to each lodge, it is scarcely necessary to say that I was received in a true Masonic manner, and my stay with them was made as pleasant as it was possible to be ; and I might also say, to the credit of the lodges of this district, that in every case but one the expenses were cheerfully paid without even a hint. I am pleased to be able to say that although times are and have been dull, this district will be able to show a substantial increase to its membership, so I am satisfied that Masonry is in a good healthy state in the Georgian District.

I am pleased to be able to say that most of the lodges in the district are in fair financial standing. I believe I only visited one where they had not a balance in their favor. I only called one emergency meeting during my term. I made a special effort to visit at their regular meetings. This course I would recommend to my successor, as it is more convenient for the lodges and the meetings are better attended.

During my term of office the following deaths have been reported to me : Bro. John Hannah, of Lorne Lodge, No. 377, Shelburne ; Bro. L. B. Lantenbach, Minerva Lodge, No. 304, Stroud ; Bro. Switzer, of Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, Midland ; Bro. J. T. Sproule, of Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie. I am pleased to be able to report that with one exception the lodges in this district are all provided with well furnished and comfortable halls while some have splendid suites of rooms and perfect appointments.

VISITS.

Seven Star Lodge, No. 285, Alliston: I visited the above lodge on November 27, 1895, and this lodge has not been getting very flattering reports from the D. D G. M.'s for the past few years, but on the present occasion I am pleased to be able to speak most highly of the lodge and its officers. They have moved from their old lodge room and provided themselves with a very comfortable and neatly furnished set of rooms, suitable for their work in every particular. W. Bro. Hobson and his officers have been doing as good work this year as any lodge in the district. A great deal of credit is due to W. Bro. Hobson for the manner in which he has raised this lodge from being one of the weakest in this district to its present state of high standing. I think this lodge will be able to show that they have done the most work of any lodge in the district this year. The second and third degrees were both worked by the officers on the occasion of my visit in a most satisfactory manner. I was pleased to meet V. W. Bro. Hugh Wright, who with W. Bro. Matthews, of Spry Lodge, Beeton, and several other Past Masters, occupied seats in the east.

Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, Bradford: I visited on January 24th, 1896, and although the night was very stormy and disagreeable I found a very good attendance to receive me, some of them having driven six and eight miles in order to be present. Those are the kind of Masons one likes to meet. I was very much pleased to meet R. W. Bro. Broughton, who, by the way is a pillar of this lodge. Simcoe Lodge seems to have got a new lease of life and is doing very good work. W. Bro. Boddy is a very energetic and clever Master, and has able Wardens to assist him, and a splendid Secretary. The work on the night of my visit was the initiation of a candidate. Each officer performed his duty most satisfactorily. I am sorry to say that this is the only lodge in the district who have not a hall of their own to meet in, but I understand they are about to get premises of their own very soon.

Spry Lodge, No. 385, Beeton: I visited this lodge on the 5th of February, and I am glad to be able to give this lodge a better report than my predecessor gave them. I found that though there are only twenty-five members belonging to this lodge there were twenty-four present to receive me, and a very fine class of Masons they are. No less than eight Past Masters were in the east, prominent among whom was V. W. Bro Chrystal who is a very able and trusted Mason. The W. M. was not present, being kept away by sickness. The immediate P. M., W. Bro. Matthews, opened the lodge and then gave the gavel to W. Bro. Croft, the able Secretary, who

took charge of the lodge for the rest of the evening, and who raised in the most perfect manner a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. He was very ably assisted by the Wardens and the other officers. W. Bro. Croft is already known to Grand Lodge as a first class worker, so I need say nothing more. I am sorry I am not able to say anything about the present W. M., as I have already stated he was not present at my meeting. The books are well kept and every department is in perfect order.

Beaver Lodge, No. 234, Clarksburg: I visited this lodge on the 25th Feb., and was well pleased with the lodge in every particular. The W. M., W. Bro. Dr. Kent, though only two months in the east, conferred both the second and third degrees in a most perfect manner, and was ably assisted by each of his officers. This lodge is blest with one of the best secretaries in the district in the person of W. Bro. J. H. Dickinson, whose books are perfectly kept. The finances of this lodge are in a good healthy state, showing over $300 on the right side of the ledger. I was much pleased to meet here R. W. Bro. Pye, who takes a deep interest in Beaver Lodge. In short I am only doing Beaver Lodge simple justice to say that it is one of the best lodges in the Georgian District in every particular.

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford: I visited this lodge on the 28th Feb., and I am pleased to say I found things much better than I expected. I was met at the station by R. W. Bro. McCarrol, W. Bro. Hair and others. W. Bro. Dodson, the W. M. of this lodge, who lives some ten miles from Meaford, I found to be one of the brightest Masters in the district. This lodge has many able Past Masters and one of these is R. W. Bro. McCarroll, who appears to take a deep interest in the work and prosperity of this lodge. My visit being on the evening of their annual at-home, there was no work other than their usual opening and closing which was quite satisfactory to me. This is the only place I was honored by the presence of the ladies and also the clergy of the town, both of which added much to the pleasure of the evening. This refers of course to the banquet which took place after the other business was over. This I look on as one of the happiest meetings I had in the district.

Georgian Lodge, No. 348, Penetanguishene: I visited this lodge on the 5th March, 1896, and as I had only given a few days notice the meeting was not very well attended. However, I was met by the W. M. and the Secretary and very well treated. This lodge has a very comfortable room to meet in and all appointments necessary to do good work, which they

do, as W. Bro. Wright is a very good worker. Again I must mention the able assistance the Master receives from his able and painstaking Secretary, V. W. Bro. J. J. Buckley, who also keeps his books in a faultless manner. This lodge having a very small field to draw from is not doing very much work, but is holding its own, and is in a very good state financially.

Lorne Lodge, No. 377, Shelburne: I visited this lodge on the 9th of April, 1896, and it being a very stormy day and the roads being bad the attendance was not as large as I expected. However, about 17 or 18 first class Masons put in an appearance. I call men who drive a long way on bad roads and through a storm good men and good Masons. The W. M., Bro. Charles Mason, is an able and experienced worker, having been in the east several times. On this occasion he conferred the third degree in a first-class manner, and received able assistance from the other officers of the lodge. The books are properly kept, and the lodge is in a good position and doing good work.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, Stayner, I visited on the 21st of April, 1896. There were about twenty of the brethren present, besides some visitors, so that there was a very pleasant meeting, and having no work for that evening the W. M, W. Bro. Joseph Hood, opened and closed the lodge in the several degrees to my entire satisfaction. He also exemplified the first degree on a dummy or substitute very satisfactorily indeed. I am sorry to say there appears to have been some trouble crept into this lodge, and there is not likely to be any work this year. R. W. Bro. Sanders is an active member of this lodge. I am very sorry that any bad feeling should exist in Northern Light Lodge, as there are as fine a lot of Masons in the town of Stayner as are to be met with in the district. There were no less than eight Past Masters in the last on the evening of my visit, also V. W. Bro. Hugh Wright, of Seven Star Lodge, Alliston, and V. W. Bro. C. L. Sanders, of Corinthian Lodge, Barrie.

Manito Lodge, No. 90, Collingwood: I visited this lodge on the 29th April, 1896, and received a right royal welcome, there being a splendid turn out of the members and quite a number of visitors, in all between sixty and seventy, and I must here congratulate the Masons of Collingwood on having the best Masonic building in the district, with every appointment perfect for both labor and refreshment. The lodge was opened and closed in the different degrees, and a candidate passed to the second degree in a most satisfactory manner. Every officer had his work well, and the degree was given smoothly and impressively. This lodge is in the hands of

young and energetic men who appear to have the welfare of the lodge at heart. They have also an excellent Secretary in the person of W. Bro. H. A. Currie, whose books are well and very neatly kept. This lodge can boast of many distinguished members amongst whom are M. W. Bro. H. Robertson, R.W. Bros. Toun and Nettleton. I was pleased to meet here W. Bro. Dr. Kent, of Beaver Lodge, Clarksburg, also R. W. Bro. J. H. Dickenson and other members of the same lodge who had driven fourteen miles to be present. It is hardly necessary to mention that here as in nearly all other places the fourth degree is not neglected.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie: I visited on May 7th, 1896, and here I met with a most hearty welcome. This lodge has been called the banner lodge of the district by many of my predecessors, and if it was entitled to that appellation at their hands it has certainly lost nothing in the past year, as it would be hard to find a better set of officers than those who occupy the chairs this year, W. Bro. D. H. McLaren and his staff, in this lodge. The work is always well done, as no brother will be installed as Master who is not qualified to fulfil the duties he assumes On the evening of my visit there were no less than three P. D. D. G. M's present, all members of this lodge, and your humble servant, R. W. Bros. King, Monkman and Macwatt, so Corinthian Lodge is not likely to go astray very far with such an element of Masonic skill to guide it. I need not give any particulars of work done by this lodge as I have visited here several times during the year and always found the work perfectly done. There is no lodge in the district knows better how to entertain than Corinthian. So the D. D. G. M., no matter who he may be, can always look forward to a hearty reception from this lodge. The books are perfectly kept, and the lodge is in a good financial condition.

St. George's Lodge, No. 88, and North Star, No. 322, Owen Sound: I visited on the 20th May a joint meeting, having been called for my convenience, which I thought very kind of the brethren. This was the election of officers in St. George's Lodge, and after that was over I was sent for and heartily received by about seventy or eighty members of the two lodges. The officers of St. George's Lodge initiated a candidate and then gave place to the officers of North Star who opened in the second degree and passed a candidate. The officers were a little nervous, but on the whole they performed their respective duties very satisfactorily, the charges being splendidly given by W. Bro. Tucker, who as a Past Master takes a great interest in the work of the lodge. I was pleased to meet here

R. W. Bros. Judge Creasor, McLachlin and Ingles, W. Bros. Dr. Cameron, Bishop and others. The books in each lodge are well kept and the lodges are in good financial standing. They have also very comfortable and well furnished rooms with proper appointments. I will not soon forget the kindness with which I was treated by the brethren of Owen Sound.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 333, Flesherton: I visited on May 21st, 1896. I am pleased to be able to give this lodge a better report than they received last year from my predecessor. They called a special meeting to receive me, and though on short notice there was quite a number turned out and the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees as requested by me by W. Bro. Mitchell in a first class manner, proving to my satisfaction that he and his officers are well qualified to do all work that comes before the lodge. This lodge, though weak in numbers, pays more in charity than any lodge in this district, which to my mind is the highest character I can give them.

Kerr Lodge, No. 230, Barrie: This being my own lodge I visited nearly every meeting during the year, and as the officers of this lodge were all serving a second term, and their work having been reported to Grand Lodge last year, and especially as this is my own lodge, it leaves very little for me to say. I might however repeat here what I have said of our sister lodges—that the work in this lodge is always well done, and very great credit is due to W. Bro. A. H. Lyon for the services which he has rendered to this lodge during the past two years. Kerr Lodge now takes its stand as one of the best lodges in this district, and this lodge has had for the past two years, I am safe in saying, the best and ablest Wardens in the district, Bros. W. J. Sutherland and L. E. Lane. I might say that Kerr Lodge is proud of her long list of distinguished brethren, notably, M.W. Bros. J. K. Kerr, D. Spry, Wm. Downie, V. W. Bro. J. McL. Stevenson, and others.

Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, Midland: I visited this lodge on March the 24th and was accompanied by W. Bro. Dr. Paiky, of Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie, who is also a Past Master of Caledonian Lodge. The lodge is doing good work this year, as W. Bro. Gibson and his officers appear to give much attention to its welfare. I believe the returns will show an increase of six members this year. They have a very neat and well furnished lodge room and are financially in good circumstances. The books of this lodge are well looked after by W. Bro. S. A. Milligan, who makes an excellent Secretary. My visit to this lodge was made very pleasant by the kindness of Bro. Dr. Wallbridge, whose guest

I was. The W. M. and his officers exemplified several portions of the work to my satisfaction.

Minerva Lodge No. 304, Stroud: I visited this lodge, or at least tried to do so, on the 26th of May, but notwithstanding the fact that my visit had been arranged some two weeks or more, there was not a member of the lodge there to meet me, and after looking for some time through the village I found the Secretary, Bro. C. E. Chantler, who had no explanation to give for disappointing me only that the Master lives in Toronto and did not get up. I certainly think it is not in the interest of Masonry to allow such nursing schools to exist.

Manitoba Lodge, No. 236, Cookstown: I visited this lodge May 29th, and from the fact that there were political parties holding meetings in the village that night the attendance at the lodge was small. Neither of the Wardens being present, and as there was no work to be done, and the hour late, it was not thought advisable to open the lodge with past officers in the chairs. The Secretary, W. Bro. T. S. Patterson, who is the guiding mind of this lodge, assured me that W. Bro. W. J. Speers, who was present at the meeting, though deserted by his officers, is a good worker and a capable Master. I hope my successor will find this lodge in better shape than I did.

Orillia Lodge, No. 192, Orillia: I visited this lodge on the 20th June, this being my last visit. This lodge had the misfortune to lose their hall and all their furniture by fire some months ago, which to great extent spoiled their work during this year, as their new premises are not quite ready yet, but when completed they will have without exception the best furnished and the prettiest suite of rooms in this district. Here I spent a very pleasant evening with a fine happy set of Masons who did all in their power to make my visit pleasant and agreeable, which they certainly accomplished. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a perfect manner by W. Bro. Tudhope and his officers R. W. Bro. E. C. Roper keeps a watchful eye over this lodge so that its future prosperity is assured.

In conclusion, I wish to thank R. W. Bro. Roper for advice kindly given on many occasions which was of great benefit to me in time of need. I also thank very heartily the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Mason, for many acts of kindness, advice and assistance whenever applied for, and in bringing this my report to a close, I would further bear testimony to the valuable instruction which I with the other D. D. G. M.'s received from M. W. Bro. Murray after installation. And now allow me once more to thank the brethren of Georgian District for the honor they conferred on me in electing me to the

important position of D. D. G. M., and for their many acts of kindness during my term. My visits to the lodges were very pleasant as I avoided as far as possible adverse criticism or fault finding where it was not absolutely necessary. So I believe I am laying down my charge with the best and kindest feelings of every lodge in the district.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

R. E. FLETCHER, D. D. G. M.,
Georgian District, No. 9.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Table showing the work done in Georgian District, No. 9, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. Work all degrees	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
96	Corinthian	Barrie	117	7	5	4	4	5	3	...	3	2	...	...	11	...	11	25	$70 00	32	$116 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Hopeful..	Yes	$1250 00
230	Kerr	Barrie	92	6	6	4	5	3	1	1	5	...	...	1	12	2	14	25	10 25	21	125 25	June 27, '95	Good.	Fair.	Yes	Jointly
79	Simcoe	Bradford	28	3	3	3	3	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	9	...	9	12	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	None.
304	Minerva	Stroud	19	2	...	2	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	9	...	9	9	15 00	4	18 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	No.	75 00
234	Beaver	Clarksburg	50	3	...	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	3	15	19	20 00	16	75 00	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
385	Spry	Beeton	25	3	3	2	2	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	8	4	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
322	North Star	Owen Sound	80	...	5	4	3	1	...	1	1	6	...	2	14	3	17	22	.....	39	179 00	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
236	Manitoba	Cookstown	31	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	11	...	11	15	.....	7	30 50	Jan. 2, '96..	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	150 00
348	Georgian	Penetang	26	2	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	8	9	... ...	8	30 00	Dec. '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
137	Pythagoras	Meaford	47	4	3	3	2	1	...	1	3	...	...	...	14	2	16	12	93 00	14	56 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
192	Orillia	Orillia	105	...	7	4	4	2	2	...	4	9	...	1	9	4	13	23	.....	28	278 40	Jan. 24, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	.....
249	Caledonia	Midland	45	4	3	1	1	1	3	...	2	...	...	1	9	0	9	.....	20 00	18	199 06	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
377	Lorne	Shelburne	49	...	7	1	3	3	...	1	...	8	...	1	10	3	13	10	.....	7	40 00	Jan. 30, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
285	Seven Star	Alliston	32	8	...	6	6	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	12	15	.....	7	39 00	June 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
88	St. George	Owen Sound	84	6	...	6	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1	15	20	50 00	35	.....	Dec. '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	600 00
266	Nor. Light	Stayner	43	4	...	4	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	10	11	.....	15	99 50	Not given	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
90	Manito	Collingwood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....
333	Pr. Arthur	Flesherton	33	2	5	2	2	2	1	3	8	3	...	...	10	5	15	13	230 00	6	70 90	June 24, '95	Good.	Fair.	Yes	150 00

NIAGARA DISTRICT NO. 10.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report upon the condition of Masonry in the Niagara District during the past year.

In the first place I wish to return my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me at the last meeting of Grand Lodge in electing me to this important and responsible office, and to express to the brethren throughout the district my gratefulness for the uniform and kindly treatment accorded me whilst paying my official visits. It would be unfair to individualize, owing to the flattering reception given me on almost every occasion.

Whilst the district cannot be congratulated upon any increase in membership, still it is a source of comfort to know that it compares in this regard quite favorably with past years.

I regret I cannot give as complete a report as I would like owing to the Secretaries of six lodges failing to furnish me with a report of the condition of their lodges. About the middle of June I issued a circular letter, requesting the different Secretaries to not fail to forward me their reports immediately after the 24th of June, informing them this was absolutely necessary in order that I could compile a complete report of every lodge. I am in receipt of reports from fifteen lodges out of the twenty-one in the district, and these show that there were fifty two persons initiated into Masonry, against thirty-one last year, but this gain was completely wiped out by suspensions, deaths, and resignations, leaving the membership for these lodges exactly the same as last year.

I have visited every lodge in the district, and in a great many instances was surprised at the excellence of the work. The W. M 's in every instance have been well selected and vie with each other in the presentation of the work.

It would be quite fitting for the district to procure new regalia for my successor in office, as the present one is hardly in keeping with the dignity of the position. It was purchased some years ago, and I am given to understand had seen good service before its purchase from the widow of a P. D. D. G. M.

DEATHS.

The Secretaries in a good many instances have failed to notify me of the loss sustained by each lodge in removal of its

members by death. I am, however, advised of the following: Merritt Lodge, No. 168, Welland, W. Bro. D. W. Horton; Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls, V. W. Bro. C. W. Bunting, Bros. Shilrock, Lewis, Preston and Forest; Temple Lodge No. 296, St. Catharines, Bro. R. H. Smith; King Solomon Lodge, No. 329, Jarvis, V. W. Bro. D. T. Hinds.

EXPENSES.

The expenses connected with each visit have been promptly met, with but a single exception.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend divine service: Ivy Lodge, No. 115, Beamsville; Mountain Lodge, No. 221, Thorold.

VISITATIONS.

November 27th: Visited Seymour Lodge, No. 277, and was greeted by the presence of nine brethren No work being on hand the W. M., at my request, opened and closed in the several degrees in a very creditable manner. The prospects of this lodge are only fair. The attendance is poor, owing to the fact that most of the members are sailors, necessitating their being away from home the greater portion of the year.

Nov. 28th: Visited Hiram Lodge, No. 319, Hagersville, and met with a very pleasing reception. The work of the evening consisted of the conferring of the third degree and was given by W. Bro. McCrath in a most pleasing and impressive manner.

Nov. 29th: Visited King Solomon Lodge, No. 329, Jarvis. Owing to the Secretary making a mistake regarding my visit the attendance was not so large as it otherwise would have been. R. W. Bro. Jacques, the W. M., exemplified the second degree, and it is needless to say that the work was conferred in a most impressive manner. The election of officers also took place, and I am satisfied that the lodge will sustain the reputation that it has long held. R. W. Bro. Noble was present, together with the W. M., J. W. and S. D. of Hiram Lodge, of Hagersville.

Dec. 27th: Visited Palmer Lodge, No. 372, Bridgeburg, and being the festival of St. John the elective officers were duly installed by R. W. Bro. Hurrell. A pleasing feature on this occasion was the fraternal visit of W. Bro. Dorion and about fifteen members of Occidental Lodge, of Black Rock, N. Y. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition, having $300.00 in their treasury and with an ideal set of officers ought to

be second to none in the district. The attendance was thirty-seven.

Jan. 2nd: Visited St. John's Lodge, No. 35, Cayuga. The work of the evening consisted of the conferring of the second and third degrees. W. Bro. Carruthers is a very careful and consistent worker, and assisted by W. Bro. Hoshall gave a perfect exemplification of these degrees. This is a very progressive lodge and have recently moved into new quarters, which gives them one of the best furnished and equipped lodges in the district. The greatest of interest is taken by each member in its welfare and they are deserving of every success. The attendance was thirty-seven, including W. Bro. Davis and several brethren of Enniskillen Lodge, No. 185.

January 27th: Visited Merritt Lodge, No. 168, Welland. Owing to a firemen's concert taking place on this evening, and of which body a large number belong to the craft, I was not greeted with a very large attendance. There were no degrees to confer. W. Bro. Raymond is able to confer them all, but am afraid that Welland is a poor field for material to introduce into Masonry. After the lodge was closed the brethren were very pleasantly entertained by Bro. Harry Rich, of Toronto.

January 28th: Visited Myrtle Lodge, No 337, Port Robinson, and the attendance was the largest in years. The work consisted of conferring the third degree, which was done by W. Bro. Hagar. The trouble with this lodge is lack of material. What few members belong are mostly advanced in years, but show the same zeal and energy as when first receiving their degrees. They have a fine new hall, and very neatly furnished. After the lodge was closed the ladies furnished a pleasing spread, and seemed to take as deep an interest in the welfare of the lodge as the most enthusiastic of its members.

January 29th: Visited Mountain Lodge, No. 221, Thorold. W. Bro. Stanley exemplified the first degree in a correct and impressive manner. This is the first work given by this lodge in two years and reflected great credit on each officer connected with the work. Two propositions for membership were received, showing signs of future progressiveness. They have a very pleasing and commodious lodge room, well furnished. This is one of the lodges that have been reported on adversely, but whose prospects are now of the brightest.

January 30th: Visited Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby, and was pleased to see such a large attendance of the brethren. The second degree was conferred by P M. W. Bro. Millward in a faultlesss manner. The great surprise of the evening was

in store for me when W. Bro. Forbes conferred the thrid degree in such a manner that commended my deepest admiration. The working of this degree was the best I have ever witnessed and Union Lodge is to be congratulated on having such an able set of officers. Preparations are being made for the celebration of the centenary of this lodge, which will occur in December, 1899. R. W. Bro. Forbes is in receipt of material relative to the old members, which the records do not supply and which are of the greatest historical value. It is needless to say that the prospects of this lodge are very bright.

December 31st: Visited Ivy Lodge, No. 115, Beamsville. The work consisted of the initiation of two candidates, which was conferred by W. Bro. Simpson, and entitles the lodge to great credit in having such an efficient Master; he was ably assisted by a superior set of officers. An interesting feature was that one of the candidates was a son of W. Bro. Simpson. I am deeply indebted for the kind and hospitable treatment accorded me, and to R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, D. G. M., to whose fostering care this lodge owes a great portion of its prosperity.

February 24th: Visited Enniskillen Lodge, No. 185, York. There being no work the W. M., Bro. Davis, opened and closed in the several degrees, to my complete satisfaction. There were thirty-nine present on this occasion. W. Bro. Clark and several members of St. Andrew's Lodge, of Caledonia, to whom I am indebted for great courtesy at their hands, W. Bros. Hosball and Gibson, as well as about ten members of St. John's Lodge, Cayuga, were also present. The night was very cold and such a large attendance was very pleasing to me. The prospects of this lodge seem to be fair, as they have a very energetic member in W. Bro. Davis.

February 25th: Visited MacNab Lodge, No. 169, Port Colborne. This lodge for the past two years has been reported as being in a poor condition, but I am pleased to say that a revival has set in and there is not a more enthusiastic lodge in the district Its membership is increasing fast. Two candidates for the second degree presented themselves and the work was conferred in an acceptable manner by W. Bro. O'Neil. Several applications for membership were received. The dues are well looked after by the Secretary, Bro Cook. Great credit is due to W. Bros. O'Neil and McKay together with Bro. Clark in resurrecting this lodge and bringing it up to the position it now occupies. I was accompanied by Bros. Ashley and Cook, two Masonic brethren from the City of Buffalo. Prospects very good.

February 26th: Visited Niagara, No. 2, Niagara. W. Bro. Campbell exemplified the second degree in a faultless manner,

showing great care and preparation. The other parts were done in a lifeless manner, but trust this will be corrected ere long. The finances of this lodge are as good as any. There were seventeen present on this occasion.

February 27th: Visited Maple Leaf, No. 103, St. Catharines. W. Bro. Burgar assisted by several P. M.'s conferred the second degree in a careful and impressive manner. Masonry in St. Catharines seems to be reviving since the completion of the new temple. They have large and commodious quarters, magnificently furnished and the brethren are taking a deep interest in the lodge. There were three P. D. D. G. M.'s present, R. W. Bros. J. W. Coy, Donald Robertson and Harry Johnson. To these brethren I am indebted for one of the most pleasant evenings I have passed since my incumbancy of office. There were forty-six present on this occasion. The prospects are very bright.

March 24th: Visited St. George Lodge, No. 15, St. Catharines. W. Bro. Hetherington conferred the first degree in a manner one would expect from a lodge with such a good reputation. The W. M. informs me that the prospects are fair. The arrearages for dues are too large, viz, $251.37, and some steps should be taken to reduce this amount. The Secretary, Bro. Lindsay, has promised to look after this matter and trust ere another year they will not have such a bad showing.

April 21st: Visited St. Mark's Lodge, No. 105, Niagara Falls South. This lodge has just repapered and painted their room and have very inviting quarters. W. Bro. Miller conferred the first degree in a pleasing manner and was ably assisted by each of his officers. I have always had a tender spot in my heart for St. Mark's, as my late father was a charter member of it and labored a great many years towards its ultimate success. R. W. Bro. Garner was present and contributed in the work. I was accompanied by Bros. Scott and Minghan.

April 29th: Visited Amity, No. 32, Dunnville. The W. M. assisted by W. Bros. Amsden and Congdon gave a correct exemplification of the third degree. Amity Lodge has long had an excellent reputation for the manner in which the degrees are conferred and the present set of officers fully sustain this reputation, W. Bros. Hoshall, Gibson and several members of St. John's, Cayuga, were present and assisted very materially in passing a pleasant evening. To these brethren I am under deep obligation for the assistance rendered me on so many occasions.

May 26th: Accompanied by Bros. Scott and Minghan I visited Dufferin Lodge, No. 338, Wellandport. We drove over in a carriage, the distance being twenty-two miles each

way. There were no degrees to confer, but W. Bro. Cohoe opened and closed in each of the different degrees. This lodge has the smallest membership in the district and the prospects are not particularly bright for the future. The members are however enthusiastic and deserve success.

June 16th: Visited Copestone, 373, Welland. No work was done with the exception of opening and closing in the several degrees. This lodge has an excellent W. M. in Bro. Rumsey and the other officers are thoroughly posted. This is the lodge that R. W. Bro. I. P. Wilson takes such a deep interest in. The brethren are determined to keep the Masonic lights burning and claim that so long as they pay their debts and dues to Grand Lodge they have as much right to exist as any lodge in the district. Were the material more plentiful there is no doubt this lodge would be second to none.

June 24th: Visited Temple Lodge, No. 296, St. Catharines. It was with deep regret that I was unable to visit them on the occasion of their Past Master night, but from accounts I have heard of it understand it was one of the greatest successes of the year. On the occasion of my visit W. Bro. Maybee instructed a candidate in the mysteries of the first degree. He was ably assisted by the different P. M.'s, and together gave a splendid example of how a degree ought to be worked. R. W. Bro. Donald Robertson was present on this occasion My thanks are due to W. Bro. McIntyre for the kind and hospitable manner in which he entertained me.

June 25th: Visited Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls. This is my mother lodge and was greeted with the largest turnout of members I had received during the year. R. W. Bro. Fisher, of York Lodge, No. 156, Toronto, assisted by other members of this lodge, installed the newly elected officers. The officers then proceeded to initiate a candidate, and to the surprise of almost every person present not a single mistake was made. This lodge has always been the banner lodge of the district regarding attendance, twenty meetings being held and an average of twenty-eight members being present. W. Bro. Rothery gives great promise in the correctness of his work.

In conclusion I must again refer to the great pleasure I received in meeting on so many occasions the visitors from the different lodges throughout the district and the personal gratification afforded me in meeting the same faces on so many different occasions.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. C. Bartle, D. D. G. M.,
Niagara District, No. 10.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Niagara District, No. 10, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year.	Membership. Decrease during year.	Degree's conf'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions. N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
2	Niagara...	Niagara.....	44	3	...	3	3	4	1	..	..	..	...	1	12	2	14	13	.....	11	$ 60 25	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	$ 500 00
7	Union	Grimsby	55	4	...	5	5	5	1	..	..	1	...	1	13	1	14	20	.....	...	.....	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
15	St. George.	St. Catharines.	79	..	2	4	2	1	..	1	1	1	..	4	15	3	18	27	.....	28	251 37	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
32	Amity.....	Dunnville	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
35	St. John's..	Cayuga.....	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
103	Maple Leaf	St. Catharines.	99	...	4	5	6	5	1	..	1	7	...	2	14	4	18	17	$10 00	23	235 75	Jan. '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	350 00
105	St. Mark's..	Niag. Falls S ..	61	...	1	4	4	3	...	...	...	5	...	...	13	...	13	18	20 00	24	200 00	Jan. '96	Good.	Good	Yes	400 00
150	Ivy	Beamsville....	...	...	.	..	..	..	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....
168	Merritt....	Welland	...	...	...	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
169	McNab	Port Colborne.	...	...	...	..	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
185	Enniskill'n	York	30	3	.	2	4	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	13	10	23	.....	.....	6	41 00	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	V'ry good	Yes	500 00
221	Mountain ..	Thorold	59	3	...	4	4	4	..	2	3	..	..	...	14	2	16	14	6 50	19	144 00	June 24, '96.	Good.	V'ry good	Yes	500 00
254	Clifton.....	Niagara Falls..	90	...	1	7	8	9	1	..	2	2	...	5	15	5	20	28	10 00	....	.....	Dec. 27. '95..	Good.	V'ry good	Yes	900 00
277	Soymour...	Port Dalhousie	34	...	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	1	11	10	.....	22	155 10	April 22, '96	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
296	Temple.....	St. Catharines.	58	5	..	5	3	2	2	1	2	..	..	...	14	1	15	23	10 00	5	61 50	Jan. 24, '96..	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
319	Hiram.	Hagersville	40	3	..	3	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	12	1	13	12	.....	8	64 75	Jan. 20, '96..	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	150 00
329	K. Solomon	Jarvis	41	...	5	1	1	1	...	..	..	1	3	...	2	13	2	15	16	.....	20	97 50	Dec. 27, '95..	Fair.	F'ly good	Yes	320 00
337	Myrtle	Pt. Robinson..	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
338	Dufferin....	Wellandport ..	17	...	5	3	3	3	..	1	1	8	..	..	8	4	12	12	.....	6	25 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
372	Palmer....	Intern'l Bridge	49	6	...	6	6	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	6	1	7	17	30 00	....	.....	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
373	Copestone.	Welland	38	...	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	10	2	12	10	25 00	19	106 00	May 4, '96...	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....

TORONTO DISTRICT No. 11.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,—

In giving an account of my stewardship for the past year in filling the most honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master, for which I received the unanimous vote of the district, my wish is to first put on record an expression of thanks for the kindness and support accorded me throughout the entire district; to me it has been a labor of love, and although having so many duties to perform, it has been the most pleasant year of my life.

My first duty was to appoint as District Secretary, W. Bro. John McKnight, P. M. of Ashlar Lodge, No, 247, of whom I cannot speak too highly; he has aided me with cheerfulness and zeal, is a most competent worker, and deserves some recognition for the great amount of work he has so efficiently done during the past year for this the largest district.

I appointed as District Chaplain the Rev. Thomas Sims, D. D., who also has well supported me throughout my term. The worthy brother preached the annual sermon in Bond Street Congregational Church on May 10th, where the brethren met in response to my circular. The attendance was very large, the lodges being well represented. The service of song was excellent and the sermon from the text II Peter 1, 5-7, was listened to with deep interest by the Craft, who felt that no better Masonic sermon had ever been given in the city. The offering resulted in a substantial cheque being handed over to the Sick Children's Hospital.

I have made sixty-six visits, every lodge having received one as required, others from necessity two or three, and two lodges had four visits; all this at a great cost of time, but I have felt well paid by being able to remove defects, giving instruction where required, performing my duties in a kind way, and not for the sake of finding fault. My efforts have been generally so appreciated that I constantly felt rewarded for the time and labor devoted to the office, disputes have been settled, and the harmony of some lodges preserved by my advice being followed. All the lodges have accorded me the most cordial support and paid great honor to the office, and everywhere I have received courtesy and a fine measure of hospitality.

CONDITION OF THE ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

The condition of Masonry in this district is harmonious and

prosperous to a great degree. A large measure of this may be attributed to my predecessors in office, who have each left some trace of their good work in the past. A few lodges only are not all that could be desired, but in reading my detailed account of individual lodges, it must be admitted that matters were never in a better state generally. The work is done with a uniformity that surprised me, and in numerous cases outside of the city with much excellence, showing the deep interest taken by the Past Masters and officers, and I have been well pleased to notice the zeal of many in this direction.

Charity holds a first place with some lodges. A new subject is no receiving attention. I refer to to the Consumptive Sanitarium at Gravenhurst, for which an endowment of $250 is expected from the Toronto lodges. Already St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, has given $50.00, and Doric Lodge, No. 316, $25.00; other lodges no doubt will follow, and very soon it is to be hoped the object of the promoters will be attained.

DIVISION OF THE DISTRICT.

A report of the committee appointed for this purpose will be presented at Grand Lodge. After much discussion it was decided, that if a division is made, the committee recommend that the district be divided into two, one called "Toronto District," retaining its number 11, and the other called "York District," receiving a new number from Grand Lodge. Toronto District to consist of the city lodges proper, with those in the vicinity, making a total of 26, and York District to consist of 14 so called country lodges.

I feel that the forty lodges comprise too great a care for one D. D. G. M., and strongly recommend a division of some kind that would be agreeable to all the lodges concerned.

TORONTO PAST MASTERS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association holds its own under the capable President, R. W. Bro. Manly. Excellent papers have been read by prominent Masons, and very enjoyable gatherings have been held at various times during the year.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

On January 21st, I issued a circular notifying all the district that a Lodge of Instruction would be held in Masonic Hall, Toronto street, on February 28th, 1895. Zetland Lodge having kindly consented to have the meeting on their regular night, this was carried out to my complete satisfaction.

The first degree was exemplified by W. Bro. W. D. McPherson and the officers of Zetland Lodge, No. 236; the second

degree by W. Bro. B. N. Davis and the officers of Doric Lodge, No. 316, and the third degree by W. Bro. C. Morrison and the officers of Ashlar Lodge, No. 247.

As there was four hours steady work I notified the brethren at the commencement that questions and debate would not be in order, as the work to be presented was such as I would like to have done by all the lodges for the sake of uniformity.

In spite of the weather being miserably wet the attendance was large. There were 16 officers and 55 members of Zetland Lodge and 251 visitors, making a total of 322 present Every lodge of the 20 in the city and vicinity was represented, and there were visitors from outside lodges of our 11th district, from Sharon, Woodbridge, Aurora, Brampton, Streetsville, Lambton Mills, Markham and Newmarket, and of other districts from Montreal, Collingwood, Kingston, Hamilton, London, Georgetown, Port Hope, Wiarton and Windsor.

The work in the several degrees was well executed and such conspicuous ability manifested throughout by the various officers that I felt it would be invidious to mention names, especially with a view to strict impartiality. A noticeable feature was the intense interest manifested from start to finish, the ceremonies being greatly assisted by the excellent music performed by the several choirs of the working lodges. The hall was beautifully decorated with palms and flowering plants in great profusion, forming *tout ensemble* not to be soon forgotton. It was evident that taken altogether the function was much appreciated and not likely to fail in having the desired effect.

After the labors of the evening were ended, Zetland's hospitality was put to the test, the crowd was too great for one room and many had to be served outside. A good time for a couple of hours was spent in speeches, songs and recitations, and the brethren parted all delighted with the joyous and profitable time they had on the occasion.

THE DEPARTED.

The hand of death has been busy in our midst during the past year, many have been called away who will be missed by their brethren. Among those whom we mourn I have to mention a P. D. D. G. M., the lamented R. W. Bro. T. F. Blackwood, of Ashlar Lodge. As reference is made to this especial subject by a Board on the fraternal dead, I shall content myself by giving a list of those whose death has come more particularly under my notice. Those are King Solomon Lodge, No. 22, V. W. Bro. C. W. Bunting ; Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Bro. Wm. French ; Ionic Lodge, No. 25, V. W. Bro.

T. McCracken ; York Lodge, No. 156, Bro. Frank McFarlane; Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Bro. D. W. Thompson ; Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Bro. Chaplain Dr. R. Boyle ; Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, R. W. Bro T. F. Blackwood, its first Master and founder, and also founder of Blackwood Lodge, No. 311 ; Orient Lodge, No. 339, Bro. C. W. Baillie ; Occident Lodge, No. 346, Bro. E. F. Firman ; St. George's Lodge, No. 367, Bro. Turner ; Doric Lodge, No. 424, P. M. Bro. Calvin Campbell.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted a number of dispensations during the year, returns having been made to the Grand Secretary.

INSTITUTING HARMONY LODGE U. D.

Instituted this lodge Oct. 31st, 1895, assisted by R. W. Bro. B. Allen, G. S. W. ; R. W. Bro. Geo. Bennett, P. D. D. G. M. ; W. Bro. J. McKnight, District Secretary ; Rev. Dr. Sims, District Chaplain ; W. B. Eakins, Ionic, and W. Bro. Lennox, Alpha. Although it was Hallow E'en and the weather very disagreeable, the event attracted a large number of brethren from the several city lodges.

An emergency meeting of Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, having been opened, thirty-five members of the "G. L. of Ontario" were healed by myself. The ceremony of instituting was very interesting to all concerned. W. Bro. G. C. Patterson being appointed W. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, I. P. M ; Mayor Warring Kennedy, S. W., and Alderman J. Oliver, J. W. There were thirty-eight applications from healed members, and three for initiation into membership.

The supper, after the business was concluded, was probably as pleasant a Masonic meeting as ever occurred in the city, the room being full to overflowing, the speeches of W. Bros. Barton, Cooper, Lawson, Smith and others of the newly admitted brethren being admirably appropriate for the occasion. The consummation of the long looked for settlement of past differences with the late "G. L. of Ontario" being a matter for hearty congratulations on all hands. The prospect is good for the future prosperity of Harmony Lodge.

EXPENSES OF THE D. D. G. M.

A better condition prevails than hitherto, as several of my predecessors have had to find fault, with the few who formerly offered to pay the expenses incurred in visiting far away, only four lodges failed to do their duty in this respect, and twelve cheerfully complied with their obvious right.

VISITATIONS.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto: Visited October 8th, 1895, a large attendance. This being the Past Master's night, the work of the first degree was done by them in a very excellent manner. A pleasant feature of the meeting was the presentation to R. W. Bro. G. Tait, P. D. D. G. M., of a photo group of the Masters of the city lodges during his term of office. W. Bro. Arthur Dinnis read the address on behalf of the W. M 's, most of whom were present for the occasion.

At the refreshment table the time was well spent to the enjoyment of the visiting Masters and brethren, R. W. Bro. Bain and other old members contributing to make the 73rd anniversary of this lodge a time to be long remembered. The W. M. Bro. Edmonds, was absent through sickness. I have, however, seen this brother work on other occasions, and know of his ability in the chair District Secretary present, also 16 Past Masters, 62 members and 80 visitors.

Second visit, Jan. 14th, 1896. W. Bro. Dowd initiated two candidates in a very able and impressive way, the Wardens and other officers being well posted in their respective work. The J. W. lecture delivered by Bro. Bell-Smith was done excellently well; passing and raising had been done earlier in the evening, and I was assured that the officers had acquitted themselves creditably. Another candidate had to be left over for future meeting. There were many visitors, mainly the Worshipful Masters and members of St. John's and Wilson Lodges coming officially. The lodge is well conducted and all its prospects are bright.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 22, Toronto: Visited October 10th, 1895. There were 12 Past Masters present, and the attendance of members fair, and many visitors. A brother was raised; the work was done in a commendable manner by W. Bro. Aubrey White, being well supported by his officers, all being present except the S. W., who was absent from the city. The Secretary's books are well kept and in good order.

Some unpleasantness was caused at this meeting owing to the ballot having been passed twice on two candidates both of whom were rejected. A statement was made that a brother from another lodge was present and had influenced members of King Solomon Lodge to hinder the acceptance of one of the gentlemen proposed, who is said to be of good character, and who would undoubtedly have made a good Mason. This sort of thing is to be deplored, as a good man should not be kept out of a lodge by outside influence or interference. District Secretary and R. W. Bro. Allen, G. S. W., present.

Visited February 13th. This was a pleasant meeting. Two

candidates were initiated, W. Bro. Lloyd and all his officers working very well. There were many visitors. The finances of the lodge have been put on a sound basis, and as new and good material is coming in, the immediate prospect is quite cheering. The Secretary has the books in proper order, markedly so for a beginner.

Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Richmond Hill: Visited January 27th. A delightful visit. Found this a good lodge room, and filled with enthusiastic members whom together with visitors numbered sixty present. There were three candidates. The first was initiated by W. M. F. F. McMahon in a commendable style, being his initial work. The Wardens did pretty well as also the Deacon and I. G. The second candidate was put through by P. M. M. A. Nicholl, and the last by R. W. Bro. G. Tait who was a visitor. The criticisms by myself and the needed corrections were received by the W. M. and officers in the best spirit, and good work may be expected in future from No. 23. They are imbued with a keen desire to be up to the mark. The banquet afterward was a creditable affair gotten up especially by mine host Bro. Helston. R W. Bro. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Mussen, Grand Chaplain, were present, who with many other excellent brethren from adjacent lodges contributed to complete a meeting long to be remembered by the Masons of the eleventh district who had the privilege of being present. The lodge is enjoying perfect harmony, is reviving with the addition of good material and the prospect ahead is most encouraging.

Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto: Visited December 3rd. This was night of installation of officers, which ceremony was very ably performed by V. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite, assisted by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf and myself. The new set of officers are considered a fine class of able Masons. Everything concerning the condition of this lodge, judging by the various reports brought in and adopted, show the fullest prosperity, financially and otherwise. One grand feature is the large amount paid during the past year for charitable purposes. W. Bro. Eakins was presented with a Past Master's jewel after having had a very successful year in the chair.

Visited March 3rd. The W. M., Bro. Aylesworth, being out of town the chair was occupied by W. Bro. Eakins, who raised a brother to the sublime degree of a M. M., as did also V. W. Bro. Armour. The lodge officers all did their work extremely well, both services being very impressive. I found Bro. Harcourt performing the work of Secretary both neatly and correctly. Attendance good, and everything as usual up to the mark.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54, Maple: Visited April 21st. This was a most pleasant occasion. I received every courtesy and hospitality from W. M., Bro. Sisley, and the brethren of No. 54. A brother was raised to the sublime degree of a M. M. I noticed the perfect manner of the examination, and the proof of the brother's proficiency in the former degrees. The Worshipful Master did the work in a remarkably able style, and had the assistance of a full set of officers who acquitted themselves quite commendably. Many visitors came from Richmond Hill, also R. W. Bro. Brunton and others from Tuscan Lodge. These added much to the interest of the gathering. The Past Masters of Vaughan Lodge take great interest in its welfare, and they are to be congratulated on the good condition of affairs generally. The books are well kept by W. Bro. Keffer.

Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto; Visited August 1st, 1895. This being my mother lodge I wish to say my first official visit as D. D. G. M. was to my masonic home, where I have received so many kindnesses at the hands of my brethren. It was a good meeting, there being a large attendance owing to a visit from members of Erie Lodge, Buffalo, N. Y. W. Bro. Grierson and officers worked the first degree fairly well, after which the lodge entertained their visitors at a banquet and concert of first-class talent. Everyone expressed satisfaction, and the following day No. 65 took all the Buffalo brethren, and the ladies who accompanied them, to a fourteen mile drive around the city, winding up with a cold collation at High Park.

Visited November 7th. Past Masters' night. V. W. Bro. F. Gallow in the chair. An immense meeting, the hall being filled. R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, D G. M., being present, also R. W. Bro. B. Allen, G. S W., V. W. Bros. D. Armour, G. C. Patterson and N. T. Lyon. A candidate was initiated in good style, and at the banquet after a right royal time was spent by the brethren, excellent speeches and songs being rendered all round. No. 65 kept up its reputation at this anniversary.

Visited February 6th. Good attendance. Three candidates were initiated. W. Bro. Unitt did his first degree work in a highly satisfactory manner, and to my gratification the Wardens and other officers proved themselves very capable. The affairs of this lodge are in good hands, and the excellent character of No. 65 so long enjoyed in the past is insured for some time to come. As usual the visitors were numerous. They all were pleased with the cordial attention accorded them.

This lodge held a social reunion March 18th, which was a capital affair, consisting of a concert of excellent talent, and a

superb supper laid in the large hall seating about three hundred. Every one was well pleased, and the Worshipful Master and members of Rehoboam deserve credit for the whole affair.

St. John's Lodge, No. 75, Toronto: Visited January 6th, 1896. As expected, found this lodge in a very satisfactory condition. Two candidates were initiated by W. Bro. M. Stewart, who is a fairly good ritualist. The work of all the subordinate officers was well and correctly done. The new material was of a desirable quality. The lodge are happy in having a grand choir most of whom, together with the organist, are professionals. The Secretary has the books in good order, and the Treasurer is a model one. The finances are in good hands, the balance being heavy and well invested. Harmony prevails. The Past Masters show great interest in all lodge affairs. I was glad to find that the dues are being well paid up compared to past years, and that good times are ahead for old St. John's. One old veteran, W. Bro. Steiner, has witnessed in this lodge over five hundred initiations in the past thirty-five years.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto: Visited October 15th. The attendance of members and visitors was large. The first degree was worked by W. Bro. Herbert and his officers in a commendable manner, in fact, W. Bro. Herbert is a most excellent ritualist. The J. W. lecture was also good. A great aid to the impressiveness of the ceremony was the service rendered by the first class choir of the lodge. The Secretary's books are well kept. At the refreshment board an unusually happy time was spent, the good fellowship existing between the members of Wilson Lodge and the visitors being very marked. This lodge is in a prosperous condition.

Visited February 18th, 1896. Past Masters' night. Fine gathering. R. W. Bro. K. Tully initiated a brother of the W. M. The W. M. who conducted the business of the evening seems to have good control of his lodge.

Visited May 19th. Two candidates were initiated, W. Bro. Duthie and all his officers working in a first-class manner. The Secretary has his books in a very neat and commendable shape. Everything appears to be doing well in Wilson Lodge. Good attendance of members; not many visitors.

Markham Union Lodge, No. 87, Markham: Visited April 24th, 1896, accompanied by W. Bro. Jno. McKnight, District Secretary. To our regret the W. M., Bro. Geo. Feirheller, M. D., was called away to visit a patient, after making arrangements for our comfort during the visit. The second degree was to have been worked but had to be deferred. The chair was occupied by P. M. Bro. Reive. The general business of

the lodge was conducted in an efficient manner. The S. and J. Wardens gave their lectures in good form; indeed, one would have to travel a long way to hear any better. The lodge is working in harmony, expecting material before long. R.W. Bro. Vanzant, Treasurer, and Bro. N. J. Green, Secretary, both fill their positions with much credit. The visit was pleasant to myself and the District Secretary.

Sharon Lodge, No. 97, Sharon: Visited February 26th. W. Bro. Phillips kindly took me to this lodge from Newmarket accompanied by ten other brethren of Tuscan Lodge. There was a very good attendance, over twenty of Sharon and seventeen visitors, several of whom drove out from Aurora. A candidate was initiated, the first for a long time. W. Bro. Abb. Wilson did the work in a masterly manner, fairly well supported by the Wardens and other officers, who are not so well up in the work as might be expected, seeing such an array of Past Masters attending this fine old lodge. The Secretary, P. M. Pearson has his books in good order, the minutes being very well kept. The Audit Committee brought in what I consider a model report, especially the reference to the large amount of dues outstanding, and the urgent necessity of cutting off a number who are a dead weight. It is proposed to take prompt action and place the lodge on a better footing, and not continue paying G. L. dues on members too careless to pay for their privileges. The gathering broke up after the visitors were hospitably entertained at the festive board, our jolly party including R. W. Bro. Brunton, P. D. G. M. getting safely back in a lively snow storm to Newmarket in the "wee sma" hours.

True Blue Lodge, No. 98, Bolton: Visited June 19th. The attendance was small owing to the elections and a railway picnic. W. Bro. Yorke and Bro. Hutton, S. W., being absent, W. Bro. R. Roberts, the Secretary, occupied the chair. A brother was raised to the sublime degree of a M. M. by W. Bro. McCartney, well assisted by the officers of the lodge. This being the mother lodge of W. Bro. McCartney, P. M. of Doric Lodge, No. 316, who favored me with his company, his work was much appreciated by the members. No. 98 have a beautiful hall with fine furniture all paid for, a membership of about 60, are not long in the eleventh district, and have a fine field for work in Bolton. The brethren whom I had the pleasure of meeting appear to be a good class of Masons.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket: Visited January 8th. In a lodge where there are two P. D. D. G. M.'s holding office as in No. 99, in the persons of R. W. Bros. Brunton and Wayling, one would reasonably expect to see work done well

up to the mark, nor was I in the least disappointed. A brother was passed to the second degree. This being the first work done by the present officers, there was much to be commended, still leaving room for fair criticism, which was received in the happiest manner. W. Bro. Phillips is certainly a good worker, his voice and demeanor making up the ability to produce the best effect on the candidate. The S. W. did his lecture well and will make a good worker. There were contingents in from Sharon and Aurora. They all formed an intelligent and enthusiastic gathering. The work also of opening and closing the lodge in the three degrees was finely done. At the supper table a fine all round time was heartily enjoyed by everyone there. The lodge is in good hands, and books being kept first-class by W. Bro. Lawrie, the Secretary. There is not much room for improvement. The treatment from all the brethren accorded me was the embodiment of Masonic courtesy and hospitality, making an evening of mutual profit and pleasure, an occasion long to be remembered.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg: Visited March 23rd. I owe thanks to W. M. Taylor, of Rising Sun, Aurora, for getting up a party from his lodge who accompanied me on this enjoyable visit. A fourteen mile drive out and return just after the worst snow storm on record satisfied me with that kind of experience. But all is well that ends well. We were a jolly party and hospitably entertained by the Schomberg brethren while there. I found this a snug, well furnished hall owned by the lodge. Owing to the dreadful weather the attendance was small. A candidate was initiated, the first one for years past, considering which the W. M. and his officers acquitted themselves quite commendably. P. M. Brereton is Secretary, a post he has faithfully filled for several years. His duties are well performed and all the other officers evinced great interest in their work, taking all the instruction I could give them with evident pleasure. The lodge is free of all liability and feel independent, only wishing for good material The lodge is all right. The brethren express their regret at being so far away, thus preventing them from the privilege of visiting other lodges.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora: Visited January 3rd. Found this lodge in good condition, attendance not as good as usual on account of inclement weather. V. W. Bro. Charles, R. W. Bro. Mussen, Grand Chaplain, and the W. M., Bro. Taylor, showed me every courtesy. The room is good in some respects, and with small outlay an alteration I suggested would make it first-class. W. Bro. Taylor worked the second and third degrees very efficiently, assisted ably by the Wardens

and Deacons. They are painstaking, and it was a pleasure to find the work so well done. There were visitors from King, and a good time was spent at the fourth degree. Everyone seemed well pleased with the visit. The lodge is prospering, always adding new material. Bro. Leadbetter has the books in keeping with the general standard in No. 129.

Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville: Visited May 20th, in company with R. W. Bros. W. Roaf, and H. Collins and Bro. Curry. It was the election of officers. There has been no candidate for the year. The W. M., Bro. Button, opened and closed the lodge very well, but matters in No. 136 are not satisfactory. The attendance has been poor, finances in bad condition, and the prospects are anything but bright. It is to be hoped that the new officers will be able to make a better showing than I found on this visit.

York Lodge, No. 156, North Toronto: Visited 15th November. This was election night, thirty members present and a number of visitors. The third degree was conferred on a brother by W. M., Bro. Robertson, in an excellent manner, and the officers did their work well. P. D. D. G. Masters Jno. Fisher and Wm. Roaf were present. The meeting was very pleasant, perfect harmony seemed to control all phases of the work, and the future success of this lodge is assured.

Visited April 17th. This was also a fine meeting, the hall being filled with members and visitors. W. Bro. Muston and his officers exemplified the third degree. The work was exceptionally well done, the W. M., Wardens and others being well skilled. It was a great pleasure to find matters in all respects just what ought to prevail.

Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto: Visited October 28th, 1895. This was Past Masters' night. There was a large attendance of members and visitors. The first and third degrees were worked by the Past Masters, and require no comment further than to state that it was very interesting to all present. The fourth degree was a jovial time. R. W. Bro. Allen, G. S. W., and many other G. L. Officers were present, also the District Chaplain, Rev. T. Sims, who took part in celebrating the 26th anniversary of No. 218. The financial affairs are in a good condition, and the lodge working harmoniously under the W. M., Bro. Higginbottom. The older brethren, W. Bros. W. C. Morrison and Jno. Patton, also Bros. Smith and King, past and present Treasurers, received special honors.

Visited March 9th. Found three lodges visiting making up large attendance. There were two candidates initiated. W. Bro. Jones and the other officers working very creditably.

The work of the second initiate was divided up among the visiting W. Masters, the whole being very impressive. The books are well kept by Bro. Jos. J. Kennersley, and the dues are reported as being paid up much better than formerly.

Zeredatha Lodge, No. 220, Uxbridge: Visited December 2nd, 1895. Found this a good lodge, thirty-four members present and several visitors. They have a good room. W. Bro. J. H. Johnston initiated a candidate in a very excellent manner, being ably assisted by his Wardens. The floor work was deficient in some particulars, which will be remedied in future. The large number of Past Masters in attendance was most gratifying, they one and all showing the liveliest interest in all the business of the evening. The election of officers took place with complete harmony, being mainly deserving promotions. The lodge has a rule never to elect a W. M. unless he is fully qualified for the position. The visit was of the most pleasant character, and the attention paid by the brethren of such a nature that they cannot easily be forgotten. The Secretary, Bro. Vicars, who has held the office for several years, will still continue. The books are kept in good order. The future of No. 220 is a good one judging from present affairs.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton: Visited December 17th. I found this lodge in first-class working order. There were about thirty-five present. W. Bro. Hastie ably initiated a candidate, being well supported by his officers. Several matters pertaining to the floor work needed kindly criticism. The lodge members are keen to have everything performed in perfect style. The installation ceremony was conducted in a very able manner by V. W. Bro. Morton, assisted by the Past Masters. I was pleased to be called on to give the charges to the newly installed Master, and also to the brethren. Ionic has had a prosperous year, added good material, are evidently working in complete harmony, the Past Masters attend well and materially conduce to the well-being of the lodge whose future is very bright. Their dues are well paid up and books kept in most perfect condition.

Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto: Visited November 26th. Election of officers which was of a pleasing character, mainly advancement and unanimous. Thirty-nine members present and many visitors. A candidate was initiated by W. Bro. Jno. McKnight in a masterly way, he being an accomplished ritualist, further being ably assisted by all his officers. This is an excellent lodge, not only the work being good, but a spirit of harmony and good fellowship being shown in all their proceedings, notably at the banquet after labor.

February 28th. W. Bro. Morrison and officers having worked the third degree at the Lodge of Instruction. I was well aware of their ability to perform the several degrees. This lodge is fortunate in having such a P. M. as R. W. Bro. B. Allen, G. S. W., who though I believe is a bachelor takes a fatherly interest in Ashlar Lodge.

Patterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill: Visited May 21st. There was a good attendance. The W. M., Bro. Francis, opened and closed in the three degrees, doing it well There has been no candidate for the year. The Secretary, W. Bro. Bates, has the minutes in good order, and the business and general tone of this lodge is excellent The election of officers took place and a good set chosen for the ensuing year. The District Secretary and myself had a delightful drive and a pleasing time on this visit.

Brougham Union Lodge, No. 269, Brougham: Visited February 5th. A number of Whitevale brethren took me from Locust Hill Station. The W. M., Bro. Westlake, was prevented from attending, much to my regret, but his place was taken by P. M. W. Bro. Price who passed a brother in tolerably good fashion. The J. W. did his work passably, but the S.W. was very weak, although the members claimed that he had previously done much better. The work was very crude, and induced me to suggest that the lodge should arrange for me to get some expert worker to visit them in March and thoroughly drill the officers. This was readily concurred in by all present. The lodge was raised to third degree, and worked down much better than the degree work. The brethren are mostly old members, anxious to do the work correctly but laboring under difficulties. Several notified their intention of driving to Toronto February 28th to learn all they could at the Lodge of Instruction The lodge finances are stated to be in favorable condition, and the Secretary, Bro. Beaton, keeps the books in excellent shape. The hospitality of the brethren is unbounded. I regret being unable to send a skilled brother as referred to.

Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King: Visited January 29th. This lodge since moving from Nobleton such a short time ago, is meeting with great success, which is so cheering that the brethren contemplate erecting a suitable hall of their own, in order to better their condition by removing from their temporary quarters. I found this a gathering of intelligent Masons who having been well drilled by an enthusiastic brother, P. M. Campbell, have attained a pleasing degree of excellence. The W. M., W. Bro. Davis, M. P. P., initiated a candidate in a most commendable manner. He will prove a good worker. The S. W., Bro. Crossley, gave the J. W.'s lecture in style not

to be surpassed ; the J. W. and all the other officers also doing their work so well that it is evident their hearts are in the work. A brother was raised by the Past Masters, led by W. Bro. Casley. These veterans acquitted themselves to my complete satisfaction. Many questions were asked and it was with keen pleasure that I pointed out sundry minor matters which will render their work complete. I found the Secretary had his books in good shape, and the Treasurer reported that they have cleared off all debts at Nobleton, paid G. L. dues, owe no man anything, and have a balance of nearly $300 to the good, with excellent material in view. A most agreeable time was enjoyed after labor was over, and I retired feeling that it was a night well spent, and cheered with the knowledge that my report could be of such a satisfactory nature. The whole prospect of this lodge is buoyant.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston : Visited November 27th, 1895. Election of officers ; twenty-four members present and several visitors. Two Brethren were passed to the second degree. The W. M., Bro. Keys, was suffering from a recent illness therefore could not do the work in his best manner, in other respects the work was fairly well done. The charge by the S W, Bro. McGuire, the W. M. elect, was very satisfactory. The election was conducted well and passed off with unanimity. W. Bro. A. Dinnis assisted in my official visit. We were well received by the brethren, a number of Past Masters being there to take part. A prosperous year is expected. W. Bro. Jno. Linton, and other brethren from Stanley Lodge, accompanied me and added to the interest of the visit.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge : Visited November 29th. Very wet night. Only fifteen members present and a few visitors. Business, election of officers, chiefly on the line of promotions. W. Bro. Haystead opened and closed in the three degrees, the S. and J. Wardens doing the work very good. The majority present were Past Masters who take a great interest in holding the lodge together, no addition having been made to their number for a long time past. They are working harmoniously, however, and hoping for increase in the near future. The room and approach to same are not as good as the brethren deserve. W. Bro. Agar, the Secretary, who has filled the office for several years keeps the records in beautiful style. The books are models.

Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto : Visited October 17th. There was a good attendance. The final proceedings in a masonic trial were gone through in an impressive manner. It was unfortunate that the W. M., Bro. Taylor, was suffering from a severe illness, and that he was not physically able to

do the work in a competent manner generally attributed to him. A candidate was initiated. The J. W. was absent through sickness, his place being filled by the Secretary. The books are kept in a very commendable way. I had to give plain but kind criticism regarding the work of the various officers, and was gratified that my remarks were received in a truly masonic spirit. W. Bro. Mutton presided very efficiently at the refreshment table, the District Chaplain, Rev. Bro. Sims, and others adding to the enjoyment of the company. W. Bro. McKnight, District Secretary, was present. The prospects for the future of this lodge are improving.

Visited February 20th, 1896: W. Bro. Davis gave the first degree to a candidate in an impressive manner, being well assisted by his officers. W. Bro. Davis proves himself a good ruler in the craft and a ritualist of much ability. The general affairs of the lodge are reported to be in an improved condition, good material being admitted with a cheering view for a good year's work Visitors from New Brunswick and elsewhere helped to make a jovial time at refreshments. The Secretary has the books in good order.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto: Visited October 25th, 1895. This may be termed a model lodge. The attendance of members and visitors was large. W. Bro. Anderson and his officers conferred the first degree, the work in all respects showed evidence of rehearsal, as every part was performed as near perfection as possible. W. Bro. Bicknell, a member of No. 326, but W. M. of Barton Lodge, Hamilton, also conferred the first degree on a second candidate. This was done in a very correct manner. The membership is of the best, the lodge well officered from the W. M. down. Bro. Secretary Angus deserves credit for the neatness and correct way in which the books are kept. There is plenty of talent in this lodge, so that the meeting at the refreshment board was carried out in a hearty and pleasant way. There is no fear for the future success of this lodge.

Visited February 22nd, 1895. This was an emergent meeting; witnessed three candidates receive their first degree. W. Bro. McPherson proves himself a good ritualist, and all his officers acquitted themselves very well. Bro. Angus, J. W., gave the lecture admirably.

March 27th. This was the 21st anniversary. Nearly 400 must been present, about 100 having come from Hamilton and the west. The M. W., the Grand Master, and many Grand Lodge officers were there The lodge spared neither trouble nor expense to make the whole affair the grand suc-

cess which it was, over which W. Bro. W. D. McPherson so ably presided.

Orient Lodge, No. 339, Toronto: Visited January 7th. Good attendance and prospects cheering. W. Bro. Chick passed two brethren to second degree. The work was not as good as might be expected under favorable circumstances, but no doubt will be improved on. M. W. Bro. J. Robertson attended to advocate the necessity of Orient and some other lodges joining the Toronto Benevolent Board. I was ungently invited to visit this lodge later on, when good work is assured. I have pleasure in adding that in several instances I have witnessed the work done by W. Bro. Chick in other lodges and have found him a competent ritualist, also that the general affairs of No. 339 are steadily improving.

Georgina Lodge, No. 343, Toronto: Visited December 7th. Found this lodge in their new masonic home, which is a beautiful room well furnished and having electric light. There were four candidates initiated, W. Bro. Whale, the Wardens and all the other officers doing the work well. The music was of a very high order. The attendance of both members and visitors was gratifying. Everything betokens a good future for No. 343.

Visited March 7th. This lodge now numbers 84 and two candidates were initiated. The work was excellent, V. W. Bro. N. T. Lyon assisting in the work, on his own son becoming a member. The gathering was large, the occasion being the presentation of a beautiful set of regalia to Past D. D. G. M. R. W. Bro. Jno. A. McGillivray. R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins made the presentation on behalf of the Committee, and the recipient spoke in response in the happiest manner. Everything betokens the future success of Georgina Lodge.

March 14th: I was the guest of this lodge at a social entertainment given by the lodge to their friends. Everything went off in a delightful manner and to the credit of the W. M. and officers. The progress of this lodge has been phenomenal, as will be noticed by reference to the table at end of this report.

Occident Lodge, No. 346, Toronto: Visited November 20th, 1895. No degree work. W. Bro. Donovan, the W. M., was not present owing to sickness in his family. W. Bro. Charlton occupied the chair. A large attendance of members were on hand, it being the election of officers which was concluded harmoniously, and gave general satisfaction. A good feeling seemed to pervade the whole proceedings. I was accompanied by the District Secretary.

April 15th. I was to have visited this lodge but had to go

to Atlanta, Ga. This was the only case in which I failed to keep my appointment. I have noticed the W. M., Bro. Prince, do various work in other lodges, and can testify that he is well qualified. I regret that during the latter months matters have taken a turn in this lodge far from desirable. I hope soon all will come right and harmony be restored.

Brock Lodge, No. 354, Cannington: Visited February 26th. The W. M, Bro. Bingham, was absent, his place being filled by P. M. Foster, who passed a brother to the second degree. The work was done in an excellent way, the Wardens doing their part quite commendably. This is a lodge well housed working in complete harmoy. Finances good, dues well paid up and always getting good material. W. Bro. Jno. Sharp continues as Secretary. He is a typical Mason and his work is well done. The Past Masters take a great interest in their lodge. The attendance was fair. A happy time was spent after labor. I felt it a pleasure to visit No. 354. I pointed out several matters of detail in the work which when attended to will render their work well up to the mark.

River Park Lodge, No. 353, Streetsville: Visited March 24th. This was a very pleasurable visit. The officers vied with each other to pay me every attention and look after my comfort. The lodge-room is exceedingly nice. On account of snow drifts the attendance was not large. The opening and closing in the several degrees was done tolerably well, the work of the first degree being exemplified fairly well, the Past Masters cheerfully assisting W. M. Bro. Jas. Miller who is a Mason of a good class. The S. W., Bro. Congdon, is bright and gave a lecture very well indeed. P. M. Bro. Wm. Taylor is also very zealous, filling office of Secretary, keeping books and accounts in perfect order. The lodge is in good shape, financially and otherwise, and expect good times in the near future. After the lodge was closed an enjoyable time was spent at a banquet, a pleasant feature at the same being the presence of several prominent townsmen who were the guests of the lodge. I should mention that in the lodge a very interesting debate took place in reference to the proposed division of the district. A D. D. G. M. may always expect to be royally received and entertained by No. 353.

St. George Lodge, No. 367, Toronto: Visited December 6th, 1895. This was a very large meeting, it being installation night, W. Bro. Wm. Roaf conducting the ceremony assisted by R. W. Bros. Allen, Tait, Mussen and myself. The whole gave full satisfaction to the company in the crowded hall. There were thirty-eight installed Masters present at the board. The retiring Master, W. Bro. Phillips, took part also in the

installation in a creditable manner. He was afterwards presented with a Past Master's jewel. It was altogether an auspicious occasion. The new W. M., Bro. Denton, proving himself admirably adapted for the position. The Wardens and other officers are also capable brethren. At the banquet following a happy time was spent with song and speech extending into early morning. A new era has given harmony and all expect good results forthwith.

Visited March 6th. It was with much pleasure I witnessed two candidates receive their first degree. It has been so long since there was any work done in this lodge that all present seemed elated, feeling that troubles are over, and being assured that more candidates are forthcoming. W. Bro. Denton and his officers worked so as to deserve approval, and they were ably assisted by Past Masters Lemon and Gautt. The books are properly kept by W. Bro. Mitchell. From this time on it may be expected that No. 367 will fill an honorable position in the district.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills: Visited December 31st, 1895. Found this lodge in fair condition, the attendance was good considering the cold stormy night. I installed the new officers, assisted by W. Bro. McKnight, District Secretary, W. Bro. Fred. Armstrong, and W. Bro. A, Dinnis, who kindly volunteered to accompany me to Lambton Mills for said purpose. There was no degree work but the W. M. and Wardens did the opening and closing tolerably well. The Secretary, who was re-elected, has the books in good order. There are a number of Past Masters who attend well, and take such an active interest in the welfare of their lodge that there is reason to expect a good future.

Alpha Lodge, No. 384, Toronto: Visited December 5th. Election of officers. Seventy-one members present and numerous vistors. This was an excellent meeting, the business generally and the election being exceedingly harmonious. They have a charming lodge room and good membership. W. Bro. Lennox has had a prosperous year. He proved himself very able, is a good ritualist and of pleasing manner. The books as kept by the Secretary, Bro. Middleton, for the past two years, are most creditable, neat, correct, and with some novel features in the way of tables, indexes, etc., which other secretaries might well copy. The future of Alpha is cheering. Visited May 7th. W. Bro. Ingham initiated a candidate. The work was good all through, the officers without exception being excellent. Large number of visitors and a very pleasing visit.

Zeta Lodge, No. 410, Toronto: Visited 22nd May. The room filled with members and visitors. W. Bro. Pendrith

worked the first degree in a style seldom equalled, being well sustained by his officers, who are all good workers. The books as kept by Bro. Symons are worth looking over, being models for neatness and correctness. No. 410 appears to be having a good year under its present efficient officers.

Doric Lodge, No. 424, Pickering: Visited March 26th. I had the great pleasure of being accompanied by R. W. Bro. B. Allen, G. S. W., R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, P. D. D. G. M.., who instituted No. 424 some five years ago), and W. Bro. John McKnight, District Secretary. The lodge was well attended and several visitors came from Whitby, making up a goodly number. W. Bro. A. Falconer passed a brother in the second degree, and his work, as also that of his officers, was nicely executed, only calling for some instruction on minor points. W. Bro. J. Gormaly, the Secretary, keeps the books and accounts admirably. The dues are all paid up, the lodge not owing anything and having a good balance in hand. Everything is in harmony. I met with a new experience here, the brethren from adjoining districts being primed with numerous questions, all of which were evidently answered to the satisfaction of those present. A jovial time followed at their banquet which was much enjoyed by us all. My Masonic Toronto brethren assisted greatly, giving me much aid and winding up one of the most successful visits I have made. There was good reason for congratulating No. 424 on their career and the general outlook for the future.

Stanley Lodge, No. 426, Toronto Junction: Visited November 5th. This was the fifth anniversary, there being a very large attendance of members and seventy visitors, among whom were R. W. Bros. Bennett and Nixon and W. Bro. J. McKnight, District Secretary. There was no degree work. R. W. Bro. Tait gave an interesting lecture on "How to Conduct a Board of Trial." W. Bro. Batt presided in an efficient manner. The lodge is in a prosperous condition and was congratulated very generally on its growth and future prospects.

Visited May 5th. Two candidates were initiated by W. Bro. F. White. The work was very ably performed by him and the Wardens and other officers did their share admirably. The Secretary, Bro. Perfect, has the books as might be expected, in perfect order. The attendance of members and visitors was large, the room being filled. The lodge is prospering, working harmoniously, dues well paid up and have the brightest prospects. This was a charming meeting, thoroughly enjoyed by all, R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone being amongst those present.

Acacia Lodge, No. 420, East Toronto: Visited October 21st. This was a capital meeting, attendance of membres

good and a few visitors. The W. M., Bro. Richardson, initiated a candidate. The work was well done, especially the floor work, and all the officers assisted admirably. The lecture of the J. W. called for some praise. The Secretary, Bro. J. P. Wheeler, is keeping the books in an efficient manner. A very happy social time was spent at the fourth degree, in which the J. P. M. Bro. McMaster and the District Secretary, W. Bro. McKnight, took part. From all sources it appears that the prospects of this lodge are bright.

Visited April 20th. There was a good attendance of the members. W. Bro. Walters did the work of the first degree fairly well, and the officers generally are well up in the work. The Secretary, Bro. Carnahan, has the books in good order.

Harmony Lodge, U. D., Toronto : Visited November 25th. Healed three M. M's. There was a good attendance. Two candidates received the first degree, worked in a most excellent manner by V. W. Bro. G. C. Patterson and R. W. Bro. G. Bennett. The Secretary's first minutes are a model. Propositions and affiliations are abundant and prospect good.

February 24th, 1896. Visited and found lodge prospering. Members coming in aiding to form a strong lodge. The work was well done in first and second degrees by W. Bro. Patterson and R. W. Bro. Nixon, and all the officers aim to do perfect work.

April 27th. Attended by request and healed two brethren.

June. The lodge is in such a position that warrants them in making application to Grand Lodge for a Charter. This I shall have pleasure in recommending.

IN CONCLUSION.

I shall hand to my successor the trust given me a year ago, feeling sure that the fraternal and loyal support given me will be accorded to him by the craft in the Eleventh District. I have been greatly honored, and very glad to give my time to the order I cherish so much. Life-long fellowships have been formed, and I have learned much in my endeavors to teach others. I have had an experience which I trust may be useful for the rest of my Masonic life. I cannot conclude without returning thanks to all the past D. D. G. Masters and others who have assisted me so kindly on many occasions, and must mention particularly R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, who willingly gave me counsel and advice in the city, and that hearty good Mason R. W. Bro. Brunton, who did many acts of kindness in helping me in my northern visits.

Fraternally submitted.

RICHARD DINNIS, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto District, No. 11.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto District, No. 11, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearges.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.										
16	St. Andr'w's	Toronto	212	15	...	10	10	4	6	1	1	...	...	1	10	3	13	45	150 00	40	$ 368 75	Dec. 27, '95.	$ 2378 55	Ex'lent.	Yes	.....
22	K. Solomon	Toronto	173	5	...	9	6	6	3	...	6	...	...	1	11	...	11	43	40 25	5	32 70	June 13, '95	Good	Splendid	Yes	.....
25	Ionic	Toronto	198	...	3	4	7	9	...	...	5	1	...	1	10	2	12	28	194 00	11	78 00	June 24, '95.	2502 50	Ex'lent.		.....
65	Rehoboam	Toronto	216	4	...	7	6	6	5	...	6	1	...	1	12	1	13	60	50 00	30	275 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
75	St. John's.	Toronto	185	9	...	20	21	18	...	...	3	6	...	2	11	3	14	35	86 36	23	380 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
86	Wilson	Toronto	144	1	...	8	4	6	2	2	4	7	...	...	11	1	12	41	40 00	35	205 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
156	York	Eglington	107	2	...	3	5	6	1	...	1	...	...	1	9	3	12	23	5 00	45	310 00	Dec. 31, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	700 00
218	Stevenson	Toronto	157	1	...	12	11	12	1	1	7	4	...	2	12	3	15	61	40 00	30	176 90	Jan. 13, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
247	Ashlar	Toronto	151	2	...	12	10	9	...	1	5	4	...	2	10	5	15	34	10 00	30	367 53	Jan. 7, '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	$1050 00
316	Doric	Toronto	142	1	...	5	4	3	1	1	3	...	1	2	10	...	10	21	40 00	40	275 45	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
326	Zetland	Toronto	248	7	...	15	17	12	8	2	15	1	...	2	10	2	12	78	50 00	28	150 00	Dec 27, '95.	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	.....
339	Orient	Toronto	160	3	...	10	9	10	...	3	2	5	...	3	14	3	17	45	15 00	53	325 00	Dec. 27, '96.	2165 00	Good.	Yes	1000 00
343	Georgina	Toronto	108	66	...	41	37	37	25	...	...	...	...	...	12	11	23	24	.....	13	78 15	Dec. 27, '95.	Ex'lent.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
346	Occident	Toronto	138	...	14	...	2	2	...	1	6	7	...	2	14	1	15	31	92 54	35%	300 00	June 24, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
367	St. George	Toronto	123	2	...	3	3	2	1	...	2	...	...	1	12	1	13	41	60 00	25	590 00	June 24, '95	Fair.	Good.	Yes	500 00
384	Alpha	Toronto	160	1	...	9	9	10	2	...	3	6	...	1	13	1	14	46	50 15	45	158 40	June, 27 '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
410	Zeta	Toronto	70	4	...	9	6	5	4	...	4	3	...	2	12	3	15	35	28 85	9	.....	June 26 '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
426	Stanley	Toronto Junct.	89	8	...	9	5	8	3	...	3	1	...	...	12	...	12	30	.....	1	96 30	Dec. 95.	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	1000 00
430	Acacia	East Toronto	70	6	...	5	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	13	40	.....	3	185 00	June, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
U D	Harmony	Toronto	75	75	...	13	13	7	63	...	1	...	...	...	8	1	9	22	.....	.....	115 20	.....	Good.	Ex'lent.	Yes	.....

23	Richmond.	Richmond Hill	26	3	...	3	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	12	1	13	13	$5 00	5	$22 50	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	No.	$2500 00
54	Vaughan....	Maple	40	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	14	...	14	13	....	5	10 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1800 00
87	Markh'm U	Markham........	33	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	3	...	...	13	...	13	14	8 00	......	....	July 3, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	....
97	Sharon	Sharon	44	...	2	1	1	1	3	2	3	5	...	1	11	...	11	14	35 00	8	25 00	Dec. '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	300 00
99	Tuscan	Newmarket......	43	...	...	2	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	11	...	11	15	10 00	7	50 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	300 00
129	Rising Sun	Aurora......	55	...	3	3	4	4	...	1	2	5	...	...	13	...	13	23	....	7	37 50	June '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	1700 00
136	Richardson	Stouffville.......	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	......	....	......	....	....	....	....	......	....
220	Zeredatha..	Uxbridge.........	64	...	2	3	4	4	...	...	2	3	...	...	14	1	15	21	....	1	3 50	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
229	Ionic..........	Brampton........	74	5	...	6	7	8	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	3	16	21	....	1	34 00	June 29, '95.	Fair	Fair.	Yes	400 00
265	Patterson...	Thornhill	22	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	...	8	...	8	12	25 00	4	49 48	Dec. '95.	Solvent	Fair.	Yes	300 00
269	Bro'gh'm U	Brougham	41	2	..	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	14	25 00	13	47 50	Dec. '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
305	Humber.....	Weston............	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	......	....	......	....	....	....	....	......	....
311	Blackwood.	Woodbridge.....	31	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	11	1	12	10	6 00	8	47 64	Dec. '95.	Fair.	Hopeful	Yes	Paid
354	Brock.........	Cannington......	45	2	...	3	3	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	13	...	13	16	....	11	33 75	....	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
356	River Park.	Streetsville......	33	...	2	2	1	1	1	...	...	4	...	1	12	1	13	11	13 00	11	54 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1 25
369	Mimico......	Lambton Mills	51	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	12	...	12	19	....	18	172 60	Jan. '96.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	....
424	Doric...	Pickering.........	32	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	8	1	9	11	5 00	......	....	Feb. 15, '96.	$60 00	Good.	Yes	....
98	True Blue..	Bolton.............	43	...	3	4	4	7	...	2	...	9	...	...	9	1	10	12	5 00	35	175 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	900 00
118	Union..	Schomberg......	22	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	10	8	....	2	15 00	July, '96.	Good.	Dull	......	500 00
292	Robertson..	King................	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	......	....	......	....	....	....	....	.....	....

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

In presenting for your consideration my report of the condition of Craft Masonry in Ontario District, No. 12, I will take advantage of the opportunity to thank the representatives of the district at last meeting of Grand Lodge for the honor done me in my election by an unanimous vote to the honorable position of representative of the Grand Master in this district, and I trust that I have discharged the duties of that important office sufficiently well to merit in some measure their approval.

GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE WORK.

During the year I have visited all the lodges in the district except Durham Lodge, No. 66, of Newcastle, which I was unable to visit for the reasons given in my reference to that lodge.

While some of the lodges have not kept pace with the progress Masonry has made in the district, the general character of the work done has been good and in most lodges the ritual has been given intelligently and in many instances very impressively, and I have found a general desire for greater perfection in the work.

The lodge rooms in all the towns and larger villages are furnished comfortably and in some lodges luxuriously, and all the lodges are all supplied with the necessary paraphernalia for the proper exemplification of the degrees, and the status of the lodges, with one or two exceptions, is satisfactory; there is this, however, to be said, that the amount owing for dues is much too large.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted dispensations to J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145, Millbrook, 21st August, to attend the funeral of Bro. F. N. Clark; to Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle, 8th September, to attend divine service; to Peterborough Lodge, No. 155, 3rd September, to attend funeral of Robert Pope; to Clementi Lodge, No. 313, Lakefield, November 7th, to attend funeral of Bro. Chas. Reynolds; to Havelock Lodge, working under dispensation, 21st June, to attend divine service: and to Lorne Lodge, No. 375, 21st June, to attend divine service.

DEATHS.

In addition to those hereinbefore referred to the following deaths have been reported to me. R. W. Bro. Francis Rae, M. D., of Oshawa, P. D. D. G. M. of this district. and W. Bro. Daniel Allin, of Newcastle.

In the death of R. W. Bro. Rae, which occurred on the 8th May at his residence in Oshawa after an illness of only a few hours, Masonry has lost a good friend and a faithful exponent of its principles. His Masonic career was an eventful one, commencing with his initiation in Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Oshawa, and ending only with his death. He held the position of W. M. in the years 1888, 1889 and 1890, and was unanimously elected D. D. G. M. in 1894. R. W. Bro. Rae was acknowleged by all to be the most popular and most respected citizen in the locality and his loss will be much felt not only in Masonic but other circles as well. He was buried with military honors.

In the death of W. Bro. Daniel Allin, which occurred on 16th January, 1896, Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle, lost one of its principal supports, and this loss is felt more at this critical period in the lodge's affairs owing to other misfortunes which have befallen them during the year now closing.

VISITATIONS.

Havelock Lodge under dispensation. On October 8th, 1894, I had the satisfaction of instituting this lodge, which ceremony was performed amid the most auspicious surroundings. A large number of brethren from the lodges in Peterborough and elsewhere to the number of eighty-five in all were in attendance, and after the ceremonies of instituting the lodge were completed the visiting Masons were entertained by the Havelock brethren at a well appointed banquet. Havelock Lodge commenced with twenty-seven charter members and has already increased that number to thirty eight with encouraging prospects. Their lodge-room is splendidly furnished. I visited the lodge on 27th March, and found the W. M., W. Bro. Porte, and his officers to be energetic Masons well skilled in their work, and I have great satisfaction in recommending that a charter be granted. A large deputation from Norwood Lodge paid a visit at the same time and were so well received that the greatest harmony between the two lodges was cemented.

Corinthian, No. 101, Peterborough : My official visit to this my mother lodge was made on 27th December, when I installed the officers of this and Peterboro Lodge, No. 155, together. The occasion was one long to be remembered as

one characterized by much Masonic enthusiasm. There was about one hundred and fifty members present of whom thirty-six were Past Masters, and of these three were P. D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bros. E. H. D. Hall, B. Shortley and Wm. Miller, and among the P. M.'s I mention such veteran Masons as V. W. Bros. Chas. Cameron and H. C. Winch and W. Bro. Hy. Rush, who have so to speak grown grey in the service. After the lodges closed the brethren were sumptuously entertained by the members of the two lodges, and the pleasure of such a gathering is a very powerful argument against changing the date of installation to St. John the Baptist's day, when most Masonic halls are much too heated to be comfortable. I had the opportunity of seeing work in this lodge on several subsequent occasions, and have to report the work as exemplified by W. Bro Johnson and his officers exceedingly well done, so well indeed that I doubt very much if it is surpassed in the distrct.

Peterboro' Lodge, 155: I visited this lodge and installed the officers on 27th December, 1895, and my remarks upon the condition of Corinthian Lodge apply with equal force to this lodge. Peterboro' Lodge has the largest membership of the district and the meetings are always well attended. The finances are well managed and the prospects are quite satisfactory.

Keene Lodge, No. 374, Keene: Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Wm, Miller, V. W. Bro. Winch, W. Bros. Johnson, Gibson, Walker, Morrow and others, I visited this lodge on 23rd January. The field here is not a fruitful one, the village itself being small, and without a somewhat large urban population I find that Masonic lodges do not increase in number. The membership, however, is kept up and the Past Masters of Keene Lodge take such an active interest in its affairs that the lodge must hold its own. The finances are well managed and the general standing of the lodge is good.

Orono Lodge, No. 325, Orono: I visited this lodge on 30th January and had the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. D. Allin, P. M. of Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle, since deceased; W. Bro. Coulson, the present W. M., and contingent of members of that lodge. Orono Lodge has a well appointed and well furnished lodge room. but the ante rooms are scarcely adequate. I installed the officers for the ensuing year and found the lodge in a healthy condition. W. Bro. Tucker remains W. M., and is a well skilled painstaking officer. I do not look for much increase in the membership, but have no doubt but that the lodge will not retrograde.

Clementi Lodge, No. 313, Lakefield: This is one of the best managed lodges in the district, the old members of the lodge almost without exception attend the meetings regularly. The Secretary, Bro. Dench, has been repeatedly commended by my predecessors for the faultless discharge of his duties. W. Bro. Edward, the present W. M., is now living in Montreal, and attends all the meetings. There is not one member in arrear in payment of dues, and the work has always been properly and carefully exemplified. I visited February 4th, accompanied by V. W. Bros. Winch and Dennistown, W. Bros. Johnston, Gibson, Martin, Logan and others. It is always a pleasure to visit Clementi Lodge.

Faithful Brethren, No. 77, Lindsay: I visited this lodge on February 7th, and had the pleasure of meeting a large turnout of the members and seeing the work well done. The membership has been increased by four during the year. The finances are well managed, as shown by the considerable surplus deposited in the bank and the small amount of arrearages for dues, being only $54 for a lodge of 89 members. The Secretary is a competent officer, and the prospects are good.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Oshawa: I visited this lodge on 25th February, and thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Oshawa. In fact I found the companionship of the members of Cedar Lodge and Lebanon Lodge so congenial that I made Oshawa my headquarters while visiting other lodges in the vicinity, and my sincere thanks are due to R. W. Bro. McCaw, R. W. Bro. Dr. Rae, W. Bros. Dr. Kaiser, Greerson and other brethren for their many kindnesses to me while in their good town.

There not being any work the officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees and exemplified part of the third degree, all of which was satisfactorily done. The membership has decreased by one during the year, but in all other respects except that the amount owing for dues is more than it should be, the lodge is in a healthy condition and the officers are of the right stamp.

Cedar Lodge, No. 270, Oshawa: I paid my official visit to Cedar Lodge at the same time that I visited Lebanon Lodge and my remarks in the former section of this my report are applicable to Cedar Lodge as well. In fact there is little to choose between them. The W. M., who resides some considerable distance from the town, certainly deserves great credit for the active interest he takes in the lodge and the energy with which he manages its affairs. The Secretary, W. Bro. Murton, knows his duties and discharges them.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 39, Brooklyn: This is the fourth oldest lodge in the district, but I regret to say is with one ex-

ception the weakest in membership and is without any exception the weakest in energy of the lodges in the district. A state of affairs exists here that has not a parallel. There is ample work to do and good material in plenty to make a fairly strong lodge, yet the officers and members do not hold meetings to do the work. The lodge room is a freehold and the finances are all right, but such an apathy has taken possession of the officers and members that it has sapped the life of the lodge, and unless there is more energy shown in the near future there is but one course open and that is to remove the charter. I trust the lodge will see to it that this does not become necessary. I visited on 27th February. A candidate was passed but the work was unsatisfactory.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428, Port Perry: This lodge was instituted in the room and stead of Prince Albert Lodge, for some years defunct, and does great credit to its founders. W. Bro. Davis, the present I. P. M. and first W. M. of the lodge, has been active at all times in forwarding the interest of the lodge, and is deserving of great praise. The present W. M., Wor. Bro. Harrison, his Wardens and other officers are bright young men, and the prospects of the lodge are first rate. The lodge room is very commodious, but has the draw back of being somewhat too much exposed, and I am pleased to hear that new quarters have been secured. I visited on 28th February when a candidate was initiated. The work was done with great exactness. The finances are well managed and the furnishings sufficiently insured.

Composite Lodge, No. 30, Whitby: For years back this lodge has held a prominent position in the district for the perfection of the work done. The Past Masters continue to take a very active interest in all the affairs of the lodge and whenever this exists I never fail to find good work. I visited on 5th March when a candidate was initiated. The work was well done. The affairs of the lodge are well managed, but I regret to see a large number of resignations from membership, and would advise the W. M. to ascertain if possible the cause and take steps to remove it.

Ontario Lodge, No. 26, Port Hope: This lodge has again done well in the amount and character of the work done. As remarked by some of my predecessors in the office, the lodge rooms used by Ontario Lodge, jointly with Hope Lodge, No. 114, are the most elaborately and luxuriously furnished in the district. The membership is drawn from the best elements of the community, and taken altogether this lodge is a credit to Masonry, and W. Bro. Woodhouse and other members of the lodge may well feel proud of their standing. The amount

paid for relief is the largest in the district. The hospitality of the lodge knows no bounds save that of prudence, and Masonry is prosperous in Port Hope.

Hope Lodge, No. 114, Port Hope: I visited this lodge on 6th March jointly with Ontario Lodge, and my observations in reference to that lodge apply to this lodge as well. The two lodges meet in the same lodge room and work together in harmony. On the occasion of my visit two candidates were passed, and I was well pleased. The officers of both lodges show great anxiety to have the work correctly done, which was evidenced by the fusilade of questions put to me, and I may throw out a hint to my successor that when he visits Port Hope it will be well for him if he has the constitution and ritual well in hand. This lodge has a good surplus, and increased their membership by five during the year.

Murray Lodge, No. 408, Beaverton: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 24th, and had the pleasure of spending an evening in a well regulated lodge. A candidate was initiated, and the work correctly done. There has been a slight decrease in the membership, and there is too large an amount in arrear for dues, but in all other respects the affairs of the lodge are satisfactory. W. Bro. Dobson is a painstaking Master, and W. Bro. Grant an excellent Secretary.

Victoria Lodge, No. 298, Victoria Road: This lodge labors under the untoward circumstances of having a very scattered membership, there being only a very small number of members residing in the village. On the occasion of my visit a drenching rain fell all the evening, yet the W. M., W. Bro. Loyd Wood, drove a distance of six or seven miles; W. Bro. A. B. Chaffee, ten miles, and other brethren came up by train from Kirkfield. The officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees and did it well. The membership has increased during the year and the dues are well paid up. Some of the members are discussing the advisability of moving the lodge to Kirkfield as that is a larger village and more of the members reside there. This, in my opinion, would be a good move, but the obstacle in the way is the fact that the lodge owns its own hall. I visited on 25th March.

Spry Lodge, No. 406, Fenelon Falls: This lodge is doing good work and is increasing in power and made a net increase of six in its membership during the year. The W. M., W. Bro. Fitzgerald, is in the right place as are also Wardens and Secretary. I visited this lodge on 26th March, when three members were passed and one raised to the third degree. The three who received the second degree travelled all the way from Minden, a distance of twenty-eight miles, and would

necessarily be absent from home for two days in getting each degree. Here is something for the featherbed Masons to con over. The dues are well paid up and the condition of the lodge is healthy.

J. B. Hall Lodge, 145, Millbrook: I visited this lodge in April and was most cordially received by the officers and members. Unfortunately there has not been any work during the year, but notwithstanding this drawback the meetings have been regularly held and well attended. The W, M., W. Bro. H. A. Turner, is an energetic officer, well supported by his Wardens and other officers. The lodge room is new, commodious and well equipped and the affairs of the lodge are properly managed.

Lorne Lodge, No. 275, Omeeme: Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Wm. Miller, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. Geo. McWilliams, both Past Masters of this lodge now residing in Peterboro, I visited Lorne Lodge on May 7th. During the early part of this Masonic year the lodge did not have any work, but within the last few months have had five initiations, which is a particularly good showing for a village lodge. The W. M., W. Bro. Bradd, is one of the best workers in the district, conferring the degree with remarkable good effect. He is well supported by his officers, and the prospects of the lodge are good.

Verulam Lodge, No. 268, Bobcaygeon: I visited this lodge on 11th June, when the third degree was conferred, but I regret to have to report that there has not been any addition to the membership during the year. This lodge has, however, held its own, and with a better financial prospect generally, I trust Verulam Lodge will advance. The Past Masters, as in most lodges, take an active interest in the lodge's affairs. The Secretary, W. Bro. W. J. Read, is an efficient Secretary, and the finances are carefully looked after.

Norwood Lodge, No. 223, Norwood: This lodge has been in a very backward condition for several years past, but I am very pleased indeed to find a great improvement this year. One of the obstacles in the way of progress was a dissatisfaction caused by the desire of several members of this lodge and other Masons residing in Havelock to form a new lodge there. It was thought by many that there was not room for two lodges and that one or both would go down. The result, however, has proved that the fear was unfounded. Norwood Lodge it is true has lost several members who became charter members of Havelock Lodge, but the increased interest of the present officers and more especially the W. M. and the J. W. in the affairs of the lodge. and the complete harmony existing between this lodge and Havelock Lodge will do much towards

making Norwood Lodge prosperous once more. The Secretary reports having paid up three years arrears due Grand Lodge, and sufficient in the treasury for all purposes. I must, however, urge on the members to be more regular in attendance at the meetings, for without this the officers will not be able to carry on the affairs of the lodge satisfactorily. On the occasion of my visit a large deputation from Havelock were present and were most cordially received by the Norwood brethren.

Durham Lodge, No. 66, Newcastle: This lodge has had to travel through deep water during the year and is entitled to the sympathy of other lodges. In January they had the misfortune of having their lodge room consumed in a disastrous fire, saving only their records and regalia. Fortunately, however, they had an insurance of $300, but this would not be sufficient to repair their loss. Shortly thereafter the lodge sustained a great loss by the death of W. Bro. Daniel Allin, who was the owner of the block of buildings consumed, and would have been of great assistance in getting new premises. The W. M. asked my permission to hold their meetings in a hall occupied by another society, but this I had reluctantly to refuse, and thereupon the brethren went to work to secure a place of meeting for themselves and had so far succeeded that they had secured suitable premises and were about to place their furniture when another fire occurred and swept away this building as well. Nothing daunted, however, they have now secured premises which when completed and furnished will answer all purposes, and let us hope that the energy and perseverance displayed by our brethren of Durham Lodge will be rewarded with prosperity. Owing to the circumstances mentioned I was not able to visit Durham Lodge, but hope that my successor will encourage them by his presence as soon after they are established in their new home as possible.

In conclusion I have to thank the officers and members of all the lodges for the uniform courtesy and kindness with which I have been received and also for their contribution towards my expenses, and I shall always look back with pleasure to my year of office.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

R. E. Wood, D. D. G. M.,
Ontario District, No. 12.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Ontario District, No. 12, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year.	Membership. Decrease during year	Degree's conf'r'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
26	Ontario	Port Hope	83	3	...	4	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	14	3	17	18	$88 25	23	$ 115 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$1500 00
30	Composite	Whitby	68	...	6	1	1	1	...	...	6	...	...	1	12	1	13	20	.....	22	93 34	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
31	Jerusalem	Bowmanville	38	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	10	...	10	20	18 75	4	40 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
39	Mt. Zion	Brooklyn	24	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	5	2	7	9	.....	8	50 00	June 1, '96.	Good.	Doubtful	No.	800 00
66	Durham	Newcastle	29	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	9	3	12	11	10 00	13	80 00	Dec. 31, '95.	$ 35 00	Fair.	Yes	.....
77	Faith. Bret.	Lindsay	89	4	...	5	5	5	2	1	4	...	...	1	14	1	15	...	40 00	6	54 50	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$1250 00
101	Corinthian	Peterborough	69	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	14	3	17	25	10 00	21	119 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	2000 00
114	Hope	Port Hope	77	5	...	4	5	2	1	1	3	...	...	...	14	3	17	25	15 00	30	170 00	Dec. 27, '94.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1500 00
139	Lebanon	Oshawa	68	...	1	...	1	1	2	1	2	1	...	1	11	1	12	17	.....	17	114 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
145	J. B. Hall	Millbrook	58	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	2	14	10	10 00	15	60 00	Dec. 10, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	150 00
155	Peterboro'	Peterborough	109	3	...	9	7	5	1	1	3	2	...	2	14	1	15	28	50 94	28	150 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	2000 00
223	Norwood	Norwood	14	...	6	1	1	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	10	2	12	9	.....	4	69 68	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Frir.	Yes	.....
268	Verulam	Bobcaygeon	39	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	2	6	1	7	8	.....	9	.....	Jan. 11, '96.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
270	Cedar	Oshawa	69	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	8	...	8	25	69 25	10	100 00	July 17, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
313	Clementi	Lakefield	39	...	2	2	2	1	1	...	3	1	...	1	11	1	12	14	.....	...	.....	Dec 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	200 00
325	Orono	Orono	36	...	3	1	1	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	10	2	12	15	.....	17	74 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
374	Keene	Keene	26	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	...	12	9	.....	3	18 30	June 24, '96	Good.	Fair.	Yes	100 00
375	Lorne	Omemee	38	5	...	5	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	11	...	11	12	5 00	10	94 50	Feb., '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
398	Victoria	Victoria Road	21	1	...	2	2	2	1	...	1	...	...	1	8	1	9	10	.....	2	21 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	Insur'd
406	Spry	Fenelon Falls	37	6	...	5	5	4	2	...	1	...	...	...	12	3	15	12	5 00	1	13 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Ex'lent.	Good.	Yes	300 00
408	Murray	Beaverton	34	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	12	3	15	15	.....	10	137 50	June, 95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
428	Fidelity	Port Perry	33	5	...	3	4	3	2	...	1	1	...	1	13	2	15	15	.....	1	4 70	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
	Havelock	Havelock	38	11	...	7	7	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	9	2	11	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 13.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Masonry in the Thirteenth Masonic District, familiary known as the Prince Edward District.

It is gratifying to report that the district is in a prosperous condition ; peace, harmony and love abound among the brethren. The officers are for the most part skilled workmen, who render the ritualistic part of the ceremonies as near as can be to the recognized work, while the social features of Masonry which tends to make our meetings attractive, are being more and more seduously cultivated.

During my tenure of office I have visited every lodge in the Thirteenth District and examined its books and general affairs closely. The books were found as a rule very well and neatly kept, but the arrearages of dues outstanding are in many cases far in excess of what a close adherence to the by-laws of the lodge and book of Constitution would fairly warrant. I cannot too strangly urge the lodges to collect the dues promptly, for nothing so effectually leads to the disruption of a lodge as the accumulation of debt, which is something that is sure to happen unless the revenue is promptly looked after. Besides the services of many an otherwise worthy brother is lost to the order through carelessness in collecting his dues until the arrearages amount to such a sum as the delinquent feels himself unable to pay, and his lodge, tired at length of carrying him, is finally obliged to resort to suspension.

I now give my observations on each lodge, leaving out all such statistics as may be found in the tabulated statement annexed :

Franck Lodge, No. 127, Frankford : I paid the first of my official visits to this lodge on Oct. 28th, accompanied by a number of brethren from Trent Lodge. The third degree was worked in a very creditable manner by the W. M., W. Bro. Bonstell, assisted by P. M. W. Bro. Clark and an able staff of officers. Financial standing and prospects good

Trent Lodge, No. 38, Trenton : Visited this my mother lodge on Oct. 29th. The work was in the first degree and was fairly well done. This lodge is making steady progress and its finances are in a sound and healthy condition.

Consecon Lodge, No. 50, Consecon: I visited this lodge on Nov. 1st and foung a large attendance of the brethren present, together with a goodly number of visiting brethren from neighboring lodges. The work was in the sublime degree and was creditably performed by the W. M., W. Bro. Waddell, and his officers. This is one of the most enthusiastic lodges in the district and has a bright future before it.

The Belleville Lodge, No. 123, Belleville: Visited this lodge Nov. 7th accompanied by W. Bro. Ostrom and a number of brethren from Trent Lodge. There was a good attendance of the members and also a great many brethren from the other Belleville lodges. I had the pleasure of meeting Rt. W. Bro. A. McGinnis, P. D. D. G. M., and V. W. Bro. Thomas on the occasion. The work was in the first degree and was splendidly rendered by W. Bro. Alford and his able staff of officers who appear to give more than ordinary attention to the details of the floor work. I had great pleasure in witnessing on this occasion a presentation made on behalf of his brethren to Bro. Angus Urquhart on the fiftieth anniversary of his receiving Masonic light; twenty-four years of this period Bro. Urquhart has been the tried and trusty Tyler of Belleville Lodge and faithfully guarded its portals from cowans and intruders. The financial standing of this lodge is excellent and its prospects are of the brightest.

Prince Edward, No. 18, Picton: I made my official visit to this lodge on November 28th, accompanied by some fifty brethren from the neighboring lodges. The hearty manner of our reception by a large attendance of the members of "Old 18"—in membership the premier lodge of this district—was truly fraternal. The work consisted of two initiations, one of which was conducted by the W. M. in a very creditable manner, the other by W. Bro. Cunningham, the genial W. M. of Star in the East Lodge. The prospects of No. 18 are of the best.

Stirling Lodge, No. 69, Stirling: I made my official visit to this lodge on December 5th, and was most cordially received by the W. M., W. Bro. Micklejohn, who conferred the second degree to my entire satisfaction. The Secretary's books are neat and systematic. Financial standing and prospects very good indeed.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91, Colborne: Visited this lodge Jan. 24th, and had the pleasure of witnessing the installation of the officers for the current year. There was no work to be done, but the exemplary manner in which the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, as well as the systematic manner in which the business generally was conducted, convinced me

that the interests of No. 91 were in good hands. Here I met Bro. Geo. Keyes—the Master of the lodge—who for upwards of twenty-five years has been the zealous and efficient Secretary of this lodge. Bro. Keyes' books are a marvel of accuracy and neatness.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48, Madoc: Visited this lodge January 28th, and received a cordial greeting. There was a good attendance and the exemplary manner in which the second degree was conferred left no doubt in my mind as to the proficiency of the W. M. and his officers in the work. The officers for the current year were duly installed on this occasion by W. Bro. Front, of Marmora, who performed the ceremony by special request. The prospects of the lodge are excellent.

Craig Lodge, No. 401, Deseronto: I paid my official visit to this lodge on January 31st. There was a fair attendance of the brethren. The lodge room is a beautiful one and is one of the most elegantly furnished in the district. There was no work, but the W. M. and his officers exemplified the first degree and opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees to my entire satisfaction.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283, Belleville: Visited this lodge officially on February 5th. The attendance was large, both of members and visiting brethren from other Belleville lodges, and I received a most cordial welcome. It afforded me much pleasure to meet on this visit R. W. Bro. Thompson and R. W. Bro. Webster, two of my distinguished predecessors in office, whose zeal for everything appertaining to the good of Masonry is well known. The work was in the first degree and was carried out in a very satisfactory manner. The Secretary is an enthusiast in his work and keeps a very neat set of books. A unique feature in connection with this lodge is that they maintain a well equipped orchestra band which not only serves to enliven the routine of the ordinary degree work, but makes the social entertainments of this lodge most attractive. The prospects of this lodge are of the very best.

Mystic Lodge, No. 278, Roslin: On the fifth February I visited this lodge in the midst of a raging snow storm that blockaded the roads in every direction, and I found there was not a sufficient attendance to enable us to open the lodge. In conversation with the brethren I found they view with great disfavor the recommendation made by my immediate predecessor to Grand Lodge regarding the removal of their lodge to Stirling. The W. M., W. Bro. Mullett, is most enthusiastic and speaks hopefully of being able to bring the lodge to a state of efficiency if not interferred with by Grand Lodge. Under the circumstances I would recommend the lodge be

allowed to hold its charter for another year. The financial standing of the lodge is good. The lodge-room, however, cannot be said to be suitable for Masonic purposes, and is occupied co-jointly with the Society of Chosen Friends. I exceedingly regret that I have not since been able to visit this lodge under more auspicious circumstances.

Tweed Lodge, No. 239, Tweed: Visited this lodge on February 21st. As there was no degree work on hand the W. M. exemplified the first degree to my entire satisfaction. An examination of the books showed that the officers were discharging their duties faithfully. The financial standing of this lodge is good and its future prospects are of the brightest.

Lake Lodge, No. 215, Ameliasburg: I visited this lodge on February 24th. Although the roads were in an almost impassable condition I found a very large attendance of the brethren had assembled to meet me, showing by their presence under very adverse circumstances a true Masonic spirit and a deep interest in the welfare of the craft. There was no regular degree work, but the W. M. opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees with great accuracy. The lodge room is comfortable and well furnished. Financial standing and prospects good.

Percy Lodge, No. 161, Warkworth: I made my official visit to this lodge on February 26th. The W. M. was unfortunately ill and unable to be present, but his duties were discharged by P. M. W. Bro. Baker in a very efficient manner. The attendance was very good and the greatest harmony seems to prevail. The work was in the first degree and was creditably performed. The lodge books are well kept. Prospects fair, financial standing good.

Golden Rule, No. 126, Campbellford: Visited this lodge February 28th, and received a very cordial and fraternal greeting from W. Bro. Geo. T. Dickson and his officers. There was a good attendance The work done by the W. M. and his excellent staff of officers reflected credit on the lodge. The prospects of this lodge are excellent.

Star in the East, No. 164, Wellington: I made my official visit to this lodge on March 3rd. There was a very good attendance of the brethren present. The first degree was worked in a highly satisfactory manner by the W. M., who was ably assisted by his Wardens and officers. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees with accuracy and despatch. The prospects of this lodge are excellent.

St. John's Lodge, No. 17, Cobourg: Visited this lodge on March 24th, and found a fair attendance. The lodge was worked in the first, second and third degrees in excellent style.

It afforded me pleasure to meet in this lodge among others R W. Bro. Lightburn, P. D. D. G. M., whose old time zeal for the correct exposition of the work remains unabated. The active interest taken by the P. M.'s in assisting with the work ensures a close adherence to the landmarks, and augurs well for the future prospects of the lodge. The financial standing is good.

Moira Lodge, No. 11, Belleville: I visited this lodge officially on March 25th. Notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather I found a large number of the members together with a great many visiting brethren from other Belleville lodges in attendance. The work was in the first degree and was well rendered by the W. M. and his officers. At this visit I had pleasure in meeting R. W. Bro. McGinnis, one of the most zealous and active Masons in the district. The books of Mother Moira are well kept and there is every indication to show that she, the oldest lodge in the district, is in a most flourishing condition.

United Lodge, No. 29, Brighton: A fair attendance of brethren greeted me on the occasion of my official visit to this lodge on March 26th. The work was in the second degree and was well done by W. Bro. Lapp, the genial editor of the "Brighton Ensign." The lodge room is commodious and well furnished. The Secretary's books are kept with great exactness. The prospects of this lodge are bright.

Marmora Lodge, No. 222, Marmora: I made my official visit to this lodge May 26th and received a most fraternal greeting from the brethren, many of whom had driven long distances to be present. There was no work, but the W. M., W. Bro. Devlin, opened and closed the lodge in the first, second and third degree in such a manner as to convince me that he and his officers are well qualified to do good work when presented. The lodge is in a most prosperous condition and its future is bright.

During the year death, the leveller of all human greatness, has been in our midst and again and again the silver cord has been loosed and the golden bowl broken as the following brethren have been summoned to their reward: R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, Moira Lodge, No. 11; Bros. J. F. Defoe and R. F. Pegan, Eureka Lodge, No. 283; Bros. A. Hubbs and R. Gibson, Prince Edward Lodge, No 18; Bro. J. Cadman, Consecon Lodge. No. 50; Bro. J. McGill, Craig Lodge, No. 401; Bro. F. Clow, St. John's Lodge, No. 17; Bros. Wm. Duncan and Josiah Phillips, Percy Lodge, No. 161.

I have granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend divine service clothed as Masons: To Golden Rule Lodge,

No. 126, August 25th, 1895; to Colborne Lodge, No. 91, June 21st, 1896; to Franck Lodge, No. 127, June 28th; to Stirling Lodge, No. 69, June 24th.

I have revised and obtained the confirmation of the Grand Master to the by-laws of the following lodges: Prince Edward, No. 18; Colborne, No. 91; Craig, No. 401.

In conformance with a resolution passed at a district meeting held in Toronto on the 18th day of July last, I purchased a Grand Lodge regalia at a cost of $50, for the use of myself and my successors in office. I made a levy on the various lodges in the district for the amount, and each lodge promptly contributed its quota of the expense.

Now that my labors as D. D. G. M. are ended I cannot close this report without expressing my high appreciation of the courteous and fraternal manner in which I have been treated by the brethren throughout my jurisdiction.

To the Grand Secretary, J. J. Mason, as well as to several of the distinguished brethren who preceeded me in office I am deeply indebted for friendly council and guidance in my official duties.

While my labors have been arduous they have been greatly lightened by the cordial greeting that I have met on every hand.

I cannot hope to have pleased all, or to have governed without making some errors, but my brethren will remember that "to err is human" and in judging my conduct will consider the intention as well as the deed.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. S. DENCH, D. D. G. M.,
Prince Edward District, No. 13.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

Table showing the work done in Prince Edward District, No. 13, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.		Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. Work all degrees	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.								
11	Moira	Belleville	159	14	...	13	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	13	4	17	50	$22 85	52	$ 420 00	Dec. 27, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
17	St. John's	Cobourg	71	5	...	7	9	11	3	...	4	...	..	1	14	...	14	20	5 00	25	220 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
18	Pr. Edward	Picton	165	10	4	8	10	9	2	...	2	...	...	2	12	3	15	50	30 00	10	113 54	Dec. 27, '95.	Ex'lent.	Good.	Yes	.....
29	United	Brighton	50	...	2	3	2	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	11	1	12	17	25 00	4	82 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
38	Trent	Trenton	65	5	7	4	4	4	1	...	1	6	...	1	12	1	13	21	15 00	4	15 15	June 24, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	$ 500 00
48	Madoc	Madoc	80	4	6	3	2	1	...	3	4	11	...	2	12	1	13	18	40 00	20	120 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Ex'lent.	Good.	Yes	2000 00
50	Consecon	Consecon	34	1	4	1	1	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	13	1	14	17	.....	12	32 00	Feb. 29, '96	Fair.	Good.	Yes	None.
69	Stirling	Stirling	56	2	21	2	2	...	...	...	...	19	...	1	12	1	13	26	25 00	6	100 00	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	1250 00
91	Colborne	Colborne	82	6	...	5	4	5	1	...	1	...	...	1	13	1	14	22	52 00	8	17 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1050 00
123	The Bellev.	Belleville	129	10	6	7	5	6	3	...	2	3	...	1	11	1	12	35	40 00	25	110 00	Dec. 27, 95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
126	Gold'n Rule	Campbellford	47	7	7	5	5	5	2	...	6	1	...	1	12	2	14	20	10 00	3	9 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
127	Franck	Frankford	72	5	1	5	5	5	...	...	1	...	...	1	13	...	13	35	.....	36	200 00	June 24, '95	Ex'lent.	Good.	Yes	650 00
161	Percy	Warkworth	68	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	10	2	12	20	25 00	12	84 00	June 24, '95	Fair.	Good.	Yes	.....
164	St'rl'n the E	Wellington	47	4	1	1	1	1	3	...	...	1	...	1	12	1	13	13	.....	22	65 40	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
215	Lake	Ameliasburg	59	3	3	3	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	1	10	...	10	35	.....	12	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
222	Marmora	Marmora	50	2	4	2	3	3	...	...	3	...	...	1	12	1	13	17	20 00	10	40 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	1000 00
239	Tweed	Tweed	51	1	3	1	1	1	...	...	3	3	...	1	10	2	12	12	10 00	18	221 13	June 24, '95	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
278	Mystic	Roslin	23	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	...	9	11	.....	9	40 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
283	Eureka	Belleville	58	8	6	6	2	2	0	2	2	1	...	3	10	2	12	20	18 80	15	65 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
401	Craig	Desoronto	50	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	...	11	12	.....	5	19 75	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Fair.	No.	800 00

FRONTENAC DISTRICT No. 14.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I have much pleasure in presenting the following report on the condition of Masonry in Frontenac District, No. 14. The representatives of this district having elected me to the position of D. D. G. M. at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, held in the city of Toronto, I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the honor conferred on me and for the cordial manner in which I was received by the various lodges in the district.

I have visited all the lodges in this district, except one, once, and some twice. At each of my visits I had the W. Master to open and close in the three degrees so that I would be in a position to report on their condition intelligently. I have tried to correct any errors that existed in any of the lodges and impress upon them their duty as Masons and the high importance of Masonry, which I am pleased to say was apparently well received. When I assumed office there was one or two little differences existed among a few of the lodges but which have since been settled harmoniously among themselves, so that perfect harmony prevails at the present time.

Most of the lodges have had a fair amount of work to do, and the manner in which the degrees are conferred and the general business conducted is on the whole entirely satisfactory.

I have granted dispensations to Leeds Lodge, No. 201, and Lorne Lodge, No. 404, for the purpose of attending divine worship, which I am informed was well attended.

In conclusion, I must say that I have been everywhere well received and made to feel at home. For their many kindness I again return them my warmest thanks and I assure them that the past year has been and will remain one of the very brightest spots in my Masonic life and trust my successor will meet with the same kind treatment.

VISITS.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath: On September 2nd I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bros. Day and Switzer, and Bro. Godfrey, all from my own lodge, Albion, 109. There was to have been a candidate for to be raised, but as he did not put in an appearance I asked the W. M. to open

and close in the three degrees, and also to exemplify part of the work in the third degree, which was done satisfactorily. The membership being small there were only about fourteen members present. The books are kept in excellent shape by the Secretary, P. M. F. Armstrong. I am pleased to say that the condition of this lodge is improving.

Simpson Lodge, No. 157, Newboro : I visited this lodge November 26th, accompanied by P. M. Bro. Barston, of my own lodge. The lodge being opened, and a candidate being in attendance, he was initiated. The lodge was also opened and closed in the three degrees in a creditable manner. The membership is about seventy. The books are well kept, and show a surplus of cash amounting to $400. Here I met R. W. Bros. Dargavel and Preston, who pay considerable attention to the welfare of this lodge. The Westport brethren, who belong to this lodge, are desirous of starting a new lodge in their own village, which may be granted before long.

Leeds Lodge, No. 201, Gananoque : I vitited this lodge January 28th, accompanied by W. Bro. Burns and Bro. Fortesque of The Ancient St. John's Lodge, Kingston. This lodge has the third largest membership in the district. The lodge is also in quite a healthy financial condition which is due to a considerable extent to the untiring energy of the Secretary, Bro. Hayward. There was a large attendance. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a splendid manner. There being no other work, and as this was the night for installation of officers, I had the pleasure of installing the W. Master and investing the other offices. Prospects of lodge good.

Prince of Wales, No. 146, Newburg : I visited this lodge January 29th. There was a fair attendance. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and also called off which was done quite well. The brethren are infusing life and work in the lodge which is bringing prosperity. The Secretary, V. W. Bro. Aylesworth, is a very efficient officer. The building is owned by the lodge, but as they are considerably in debt, they allow one other order to meet in their room, which will eventually be stopped. I also had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Longmore and V. W. Bro. Beeman, who support the lodge.

Minden Lodge, No. 253, Kingston : This lodge was visited February 3rd. A large number of the brethren were present, including R. W. Bros. Hewton and Welsh, also several Past Masters. So far this year there has not been much active work, but the prospects are considerably brighter for an increase of membership. I found all the officers capable of dis-

charging their duty creditably. Financial standing good. Future bright.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa: On February 15th I visited this lodge. The night was not very pleasant, but a good percentage of the brethren were present. A candidate, Bro. Amey, was passed to the second degree. The work being fairly well done. I urged upon them the necessity of having a room for their own exclusive use, as they have quite an amount of money to their credit. Prospects very good.

Victoria Lodge, No. 299, Centerville: I visited this lodge on February 26th, just after a big snow storm, which prevented a very large attendance. The second degree was put on but as some of the principal officers were not in their places the work was not as well done as I should have liked. They have a neat lodge room and a good Secretary. The brethren are energetic and hope for an increase of work.

Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee: This lodge was visited February 28th. They have a fine lodge room. A large number of the brethren were present, including R. W. Bro. S. C. Warner, who is a very enthusiastic Mason. I also had the pleasure of listening to an address delivered by W. Bro. Herrington, which was well received. There being no other work I asked the W. Master to open and close in the three degrees. Prospects of lodge good.

Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, Kingston: This lodge was visited March 8th. I found quite a large number of the brethren present. Officers all in their place except the W. Master, who was unavoidabiy absent on account of sickness. R. W. Bro. Hendry took the chair, opened the lodge in the three degrees, raised a brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason and closed down again, doing the work very fair. This lodge has several members who have made their mark in Masonry, but unfortunately the lodge has not been progressing as it ought to have been. However the prospects are better and the brethren expect a brighter future. The other city lodges are very kind and generous when in need of help in any way.

The Ancient St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Kingston: I visited this, the foremost lodge in the district, March 26th, and found a large number of the brethren present, including R. W. Bro. Wilkinson and others who have distinguished themselves in the lodge and outside of it. I had the pleasure of installing the officers and, I might add that W. Bro. Minnes, who is Master of the lodge, is capable of doing the work with credit to himself and the lodge. St. John's has the largest membership in this district, a grand room to meet in and plenty of work to do. The Secretary, who is upwards of eighty years of

age, still performs his duty in a most efficient manner. This lodge cannot help but forge ahead.

Lorne Lodge, No. 404, Tamworth: I visited this lodge May 1st. It being a very busy time for the majority of its members, who are farmers, there was only a fair attendance. I found them energetic and cheerful, working together harmoniously. The books are kept in an excellent manner by V. W. Bro. Aylsworth. I also had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Stratton, Past Grand Chaplain. There being no particular work on, several of the brethren indulged in short speeches, after which the lodge was closed in the three degrees satisfactorily. Prospects good.

Albion Lodge, No. 109, Harrowsmith: I made this my last official visit on May 22nd. This, I am proud to say, is my mother lodge, and of which I am still a member. Considering the distance a good many of the brethren have to come there was a good attendance. The W. M. Bro. Forsythe and other officers are able to discharge their duties creditably. We have not been able to secure much work during the past year, but if times change for the better we hope to be more prosperous in the future. We have lost by death two very valuable members, W. Bros. B. P. Day and Joseph Watson, but by putting forth renewed efforts we hope to close up the gap as far as possible. The Secretary, who has filled his position for twenty-six years, and who is one of the best in this jurisdiction, is still at his post.

Elysian Lodge, No. 212, Garden Island: I regret very much that I have been unable to visit this lodge, but so far as I have been able to learn they are getting along very nicely, sound financially, and the officers are quite capable of doing their work well.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

FRANK S. WARTMAN, D. D. G. M.,
Frontenac District, No. 14.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Frontenac District, No. 14, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.		Degree's conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearges.	Date of last G. L Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year.	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.						Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
3	TheA.St.Jn	Kingston	143	11	17	8	8	17	3	..	6	6	..	5	10	11	21	40	$82 10	6	$ 36 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	950 50
9	Union	Napanee	80	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	12	1	13	26	20 00	30	200 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	500 00
92	Cataraqui	Kingston	117	..	7	5	5	2	..	1	1	2	..	4	12	3	15	25	75 00	18	246 00	June 29, '96.	Good.	Good.	F'ir	600 00
109	Albion	Harrowsmith	46	1	2	1	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	9	2	11	15	12 00	11	75 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Well
119	Maple Leaf	Bath	24	2	..	5	5	5	..	..	1	2	..	..	14	..	14	10	25 00	4	12 00	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	150 00
146	Pr of Wales	Newburgh	45	3	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	9	..	9	12	70 00	10	25 00	June 24, '96,	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	.. ..
157	Simpson	Newboro	60	..	5	6	6	3	..	..	2	7	..	2	13	2	15	20	77 50	60	248 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
201	Leeds	Gananoque	86	11	9	8	5	2	..	3	8	..	..	1	11	5	16	35	.. ..	2	27 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
212	Elysian	Garden Island.	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	12	.....	8	23 25	June 24, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
228	Pr. Arthur	Odessa	31	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	4	2	6	12	.....	10	20 00	Jan. 1, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	.....
253	Minden	Kingston	67	2	..	..	..	..	4	1	3	..	..	..	11	1	12	14	10 00	..	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	High	Good.	Yes	250 00
249	Victoria	Centreville	40	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	6	..	6	12	.....	20	118 00	June 24, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	300 00
404	Lorne	Tamworth	38	..	1	2	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	11	2	13	13	.....	9	31 75	June 24, '96.	Fair.	Fair.	Yes	150 00

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 15.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report on the state of Masonry in the Fifteenth Masonic District, for the year ending 24th June, 1896.

The brethren of the district having done me the honor of electing me to the office of District Deputy Grand Master at the last annual meeting of Grand Lodge, I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for that honor, also for the many acts of kindness received from them during the past year.

I have visited all the lodges in the district, and in every instance have been received with the greatest courtesy and respect, and I am happy to be able to report that Masonry is flourishing, and that throughout the district the most perfect harmony prevails. I have had no complaints and have found no trace of unkind feeling. With one or two exceptions the lodges have had a fair amount of work during the year, and much more attention is given to the preparation of candidates for advancement. In many lodges the O. B. is required.

The frequent interchange of fraternal visits between the lodges appears to be productive of much good, and I have endeavored to encourage them to the utmost of my ability.

My predecessors in office performed their duties so well that it has made my work a pleasure, and I will look back to the past year as one of the pleasantest in my Masonic life.

Only two deaths have been reported to me, viz. : Bro. C. H. Steetiford, Chaplain of Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott, and Bro. W. H. Sherman, of Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburg.

In obedience to your commands I healed five so-called Ontario Masons at Brockville, and on the 23rd May assisted by R. W. Bro. Tait, P. D. D. G. M. of Toronto District, V. W. Bro. Gillespie, of Chesterville Lodge, No. 320, and a number of visiting brethren from the surrounding lodges, I established a new lodge at Alexandria. The lodge opens under very favorable circumstances, with a charter membership of about twenty, and plenty of good material to draw from. I have no doubt it will in due time become one of the best lodges in the district.

I have granted permission for the removal of St. James's Lodge, No. 74, from Maitland to Bethel, which I think will prove to be for the benefit of the lodge.

I have granted three dispensations to attend divine service, on the 21st June, viz.: to Sussex Lodge, No. 5, Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, and Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, and to Maxville Lodge, No. 418, for the 28th June.

The instructions the D. D. G. M. received in the secret work from M. W. Bro. Murray was of great assistance to me during the past year, and I think should be continued to our successors in office.

VISITS.

Sussex Lodge, No. 5, Brockville: Visiting at regular meeting 17th February, the largest meeting I have had in the district, their being eighty brethren present, including V. W. Bro. Colcock, W. Bro. Saunders and a number of visitors from Salem and other lodges. I had the pleasure of renewing my acquaintance with R. W. Bros. Jackson and Menish. There being no candidate present the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a correct manner. The lodge has a large balance to its credit in the bank, a handsome room, dues well paid up and the lodge is in a flourishing condition. The books are well and carefully kept by W. Bro. Dewey. I have to thank the officers and brethren of this lodge for many kindness received during the year.

True Britons Lodge, No. 14, Perth: I visited this lodge at an emergent meeting on the 24th April. Thirty-five present and officers all in their respective places. The work, an initiation, was well and impressively done. The lodge room is neat and tastily furnished. The books well kept, very little arrearage of dues and a good balance to its credit in the bank. One of the best lodges in the district.

St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls: Accompanied by V. W. Bro. Gillespie, I visited this lodge at their regular meeting on the 28th of February. Thirty five present and officers all in position. Lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and the third exemplified in a correct and impressive manner. Bro. Moag is serving his thirty-seventh year as Secretary, and with R. W. Bro. Houston as assistant Secretary the books can not fail to be all that could be desired. The lodge room has lately been improved and electric light introduced, and is ornamented with portraits of the Past Masters of the lodge. Finances in good condition, little or no arrearage of dues, and prospects of the brightest.

Mount Zion, No. 28, Kemptville: Visited 24th June. Ten present. The first degree was exemplified in an able manner, the

officers being well up. The membership is small but the lodge is all right financially, and the books well kept. I expect to see the prospects of this lodge improve in the near future.

Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, Merrickville : Visited at regular meeting 24th March. Thirty present. W. Bro. Magee and officers all in their places. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees and two candidates raised in a very efficient manner. The lodge room has lately been cleaned, repaired and electric light introduced and is much improved. The books are well kept, dues paid up and financial standing good. The register is not satisfactory and I requested them to procure a suitable one. This lodge has improved very much and is now working harmoniously. W. Bro. Magee is an enthusiastic Mason and is ably assisted by the Secretary, Bro. Culbert.

St. James Lodge, No. 74, Bethel : Accompanied by W. Bros. Green, of Sussex, and Saunders, of Salem Lodge, I visited this lodge at their regular meeting 27th April. My notice to the Secretary having been wrongly addressed they did not expect me, but notwithstanding we had a good meeting, there being 20 members present and a number of visiting brethren from the Brockville lodges. This lodge has recently been moved from the old historical Masonic village of Maitland to Bethel, which I think has improved the prospects of the lodge very much. The brethren have erected a new hall, and now have a nice comfortable lodge room, upon which there is only a small amount of debt. The brethren of this lodge are to be congratulated upon the energy and enthusiasm which they have displayed. The work of the evening consisted of two passings, one by the Secretary, W. Bro. Cole, and one by W. Bro. Green, of Sussex Lodge. The work of the Wardens (particularly the Senior) was well done. The books are well kept and prospects bright.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, Athens : Visited at regular meeting 26th March. The Wor. Master, who resides at Brockville, was unable to be present owing to the bad state of the roads. Junior Warden absent owing to illness, and Secretary also absent. W. Bro. Saunders, P. M., in the east; twenty-five present. The work of the evening was two initiations which were well done. Dues are fairly well paid up ; financial standing good and books well kept. The brethren of Rising Sun Lodge are to be congratulated upon having such fine and well furnished rooms.

Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott, was visited at regular meeting 5th May. Thirty members present. The Wor. Master absent owing to illness. W. Bro. Rooke, I. P. M , in the chair, other officers all present. I had the pleasure of meeting

R. W. Bro. L. B. Leonard, P. D. D. G. M. of St. Lawrence District, New York State, and other brethren from Ogdensburg, also a number of visitors from Sussex and Salem Lodges, Brockville. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the third exemplified in an impressive manner. The officers are all well up in their work, and the lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an efficient Secretary : his books are among the best I have seen. The dues are well paid up, large balance to the credit of the lodge in the bank, and prospects bright.

Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall : Visited this lodge at regular meeting 3rd March. Thirty-five present, and officers all in their respective places. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees, and two candidates passed. The work was very well done, and I was much pleased with the examination of the candidates. The books are well kept, dues paid up, and financial standing good. The Past Masters take an active interest in the work, and the prospects of the lodge are bright. Was pleased to meet in the Wor. Master an old personal friend.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburg : Visited this lodge on the 19th December, it being their 35th anniversary. About forty present, also the W. M. and several brethren from Friendly Brothers Lodge, Iroquois. Had the pleasure of renewing my acquaintance with R. W. Bro. Fell, who still takes an active interest in the work of the lodge. The W. M. and all the officers present. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees, and the second exemplified. The opening, closing and conferring of degree was exceedingly well done, especially the work of the subordinate officers, which reflects much credit upon the W. M. and Wardens. Much attention is given to the preparation of candidates from whom the O. B. is required. The books are well paid up, and there is a good balance on hand, but the dues are not as well paid up as they should be. Advised the W. M. to take steps to collect the dues, or suspend all in arrears. The lodge-room has been enlarged and hansomely decorated, and is now one of the good rooms of the district. I was much pleased to receive (on behalf of the district) from the W. M., Bro. Kennedy, a present of a minute book containing all the minutes of the several district meetings very nicely written up. The lodge being closed an adjournment was made to an adjoining room, where a banquet was provided, after which the W. M. gave an interesting history of Excelsior Lodge from the time of its inception down to the present. The W. M. is entitled to a good deal of credit for the work done in the lodge during the past year.

Friendly Brothers Lodge, No. 143, Iroquois : Visited at regular meeting 26th February. Thirty members present, also W. Bro. Kennedy and others from Exelsior Lodge, Morrisburgh. The W. M. absent, other officers all present. W. Bro. McDonald in the chair. Lodge opened and closed in three degrees and a candidate initiated in a correct and impressive manner. The books are well kept, little arrearage for dues and financial standing all right. The lodge room is small, but this will be remedied shortly as the brethren are taking steps to have a new one erected.

Lancaster Lodge, No. 203, Lancaster : Was visited 4th of March, at their regular meeting. Twenty-five present, also a number of visiting brethren from south of the line. Opened and closed in the three degrees, and candidate initiated. Opening and closing in first and second fair, third poor from lack of practice. The degree was fairly well done. The books are well kept but there is too much arrearage for dues. Steps should be taken to collect them.

Macay Lodge, No. 242, Mallorytown : Visited at regular meeting 24th February. Twenty members present, also the W. M. and others from Lyn Lodge. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. The W. M., Bro. Stafford, is well up, but the Wardens require practice. Books are well kept, dues paid up, and good comfortable room. Under the present W. M. I expect to see this lodge improve.

Farran's Point Lodge, No. 256 : Was visited at an emergency meeting, 5th March. Thirty-two present and officers all in their places. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and a candidate initiated. Every officer did his work well, and the lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an efficient staff. The books are neat, dues fairly well paid up, financial standing good and prospects bright. This lodge when assembled makes one of the happiest families I have met. I am indebted to the W. M. Bro. Fetterby for many acts of kindness.

Chesterville Lodge, No. 320 : Visited at regular meeting 22nd June. Twenty present, and officers all in their respective places. This is a good lodge with a membership of about eighty, and still growing. The work of the evening was an initiation, which was well done. The books are well kept, the only objection being the register, which is signed with pencil. The lodge is strong financially, which accounts to a large extent for the arrearage of dues. The lodge room is too small. The brethren should use some of their surplus funds in procuring a more commodious room.

Salem Lodge, No. 368, Brockville : Visited at an emergent

meeting 28th April. A good meeting, fifty members present, also W. Bro. Green and a large number of visiting brethren from Sussex Lodge. Officers all present. The candidate for initiation having failed to appear owing to illness there was no work. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and the first exemplified. It is needless to say all was well done. The books are exceedingly well kept, but dues are too much in arrears. The prospects of this lodge are of the brightest. I have to thank V. W. Bro. Colcock and W. Bro. Saunders for their kindness to me during my visits to Brockville.

Harmony Lodge, No. 370, Delta: Was visited at regular meeting, 25th March. Twenty-five present, a good attendance considering the state of the weather and roads. This lodge is to be congratulated upon having such handsome quarters. The books are well kept and dues well paid. The work of the evening was a raising, which was well done. I am sorry I was unable to spend a longer time with the brethren of this lodge.

Henderson Lodge, No. 383, Winchester: Accompanied by Bro. Dillam I visited this lodge at their regular meeting 7th April. About thirty-five present, including V. W. Bro. Gillespie, W. Bro. Lawson, and several other visiting brethren from Chesterville Lodge. Officers all present. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees correctly. The books are well kept, financial standing good and dues well paid up. The Past Masters take an interest in the work of the lodge and their prospects are bright. The frequent interchange of fraternal visits between this lodge and Chesterville is the means of doing a great deal of good to both lodges.

Lansdowne Lodge, No. 387, was visited at their regular meeting 27th February. Fifteen members present. Officers not yet installed. Installed the officers, after which two candidates were initiated. The room has been enlarged and newly furnished, and is now quite comfortable, but the anterooms are poor. The W. M. is energetic and well up in his work. The books are satisfactory and dues well paid up. I expect to see the lodge go on and prosper.

Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta, was visited at regular meeting 20th May. Twenty members present, including the W. M. and S. W. of St. James Lodge. The Deacons and Inner Guard were absent. The lodge opened and closed in the three degrees, and one candidate passed. The W. M. is enthusiastic, and has his work up well, but does not receive the support he should from the other officers. The dues are too low, only $1.50 per year, and are not well paid up. Advised the W. M. to increase the dues, and take

steps to collect the arrears or suspend the brethren. The lodge-room is owned by the brethren, and is comfortably furnished. The books are well kept and prospects fairly bright.

Lyn Lodge, No 416, Lyn: Visited at regular meeting 25th February. Forty-five members present, including W. Bros. Green and Saunders, Masters of Sussex and Salem Lodges, Brockville, and a number of other members who drove out to visit the lodge. The W. M. and Wardens of Macoy Lodge were also present. Officers all it their respective positions. The work of the evening consisted of opening and closing, and conferring the third degree, all of which was exceedingly well done in every particular. The officers and brethren of this lodge are very enthusiastic, and it is one of the best worked lodges in the district.

Maxville Lodge, No. 418: Visited at regular meeting, 11th February. Owing to the roads being blocked by snow there were only fifteen present. The Junior Warden and Secretary were absent owing to illness; other officers all present. Lodge opened and closed in the three degrees. Fairly well done. The books are satisfactory, but there is too much arrearage of dues.

In conclusion I wish to again tender my sincere thanks to the brethren of St. Lawrence District for their many acts of kindness, and for the pains they have taken to make my visits among them as pleasant as possible.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

O. Bascom, D. D. G. M.,
St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table showing the work done in St. Lawrence District, No. 15, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.			Degrees conf'r'd			Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.			Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W. M. Work all degrees	Insurance.
			Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year	Decrease during year	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.							Regular.	Emergent.	Total.									
5	Sussex	Brockville	146	3	...	9	9	6	4	...	4	4	...	2	14	9	23	35	$73 20	27	$ 131 00	Dec., '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$1200 00
14	True Brit's	Perth	85	...	3	3	4	5	...	...	4	2	...	..	13	2	15	20	15 00	17	150 00	Dec., '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	700 00
24	St. Francis	Smith's Falls	89	7	2	3	3	3	4	...	1	...	1	...	14	1	15	28	15 00	10	36 00	June, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
28	Mt. Zion	Kemptville	24	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	2	..		...	10	1	11	11	.....	6	18 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	300 00
55	Merrick'lle	Merrickville	49	6	2	5	5	5	2	...	2	...	..	1	12	1	13	12	.....	14	24 00	Dec. 95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
74	St. James	Bethel	37	6	..	5	1	1	2	..	1	...	...	...	13	...	13	12	.....	8	33 75	Jan., '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
85	Rising Sun	Athens	63	3	...	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	13	29	5 00	28	112 50	Dec. '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	400 00
110	Central	Prescott	88	...	2	3	3	3	1	1	5	...	..	2	13	1	14	16	76 25	27	142 00	June, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	750 00
125	Cornwall	Cornwall	62	6	4	6	6	6	...	...	1	...	...	1	14	2	16	20	10 00	2	20 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	900 00
142	Excelsior	Morrisburgh	80	11	8	9	7	6	2	...	6	...	...	2	13	8	21	23	159 25	13	85 86	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
143	Friendly B	Iroquois	67	6	...	6	6	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	12	3	15	30	.....	15	75 00	Jan. '96.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	250 00
207	Lancaster	Lancaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....
242	Macoy	Mallorytown	34	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	1	10	12	.....	2	5 00	Jan. '95.	Fair.	Not good	Yes	Yes.
256	Faran's P't	Farran's Point	76	5	4	5	5	5	2	2	4	2	1	...	12	1	13	20	25 00	7	80 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	800 00
320	Chester'ille	Chesterville	77	10	2	10	8	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	1	15	22	.....	18	159 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
368	Salem	Brockville	100	4	...	7	5	2	3	2	4	...	...	1	13	3	16	31	58 30	22	228 60	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	700 00
370	Harmony	Delta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....
383	Henderson	Winchester	36	2	...	2	1	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	...	13	15	.....	...	.....	Mar. '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	None.
387	Lansdowne	Lansdowne	23	3	...	3	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	11	3	14	9	.....	6	40 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Fair.	No.	None.
389	Crystal F'n	North Augusta	42	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9		6	12	.....	13	40 00	.....	Fair.	Good.	Yes	500 00
416	Lyn	Lyn	31	...	1	2	2	2	...	..	...	2	...	1	12	1	13	11	.....	10	75 00	Dec. '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	150 00
418	Maxville	Maxville	56	...	3	4	4	6	...	...	6	...	...	1	13	4	17	17	.....	23	84 27	Jan. '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	None.

OTTAWA DISTRICT No. 16.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I beg to present the following report on the condition of Masonry in the Ottawa (sixteenth) Masonic District for the past year.

Shortly after my election I appointed as District Secretary W. Bro. Jas. E. Thompson, to whom I am indebted for his very valuable and efficient services so willingly and cheerfully rendered.

I have officially visited every lodge in the district on the night of their regular meeting with the exception of St. John's Lodge, 21*a*, VanKleek Hill, and Plantagenet Lodge, 186, Plantagenet, who, at my request, called special meetings to enable me to visit them. Several of the lodges I have visited unofficially more than once that I might be in touch with the general working of the Craft, and I have to report that the condition of Masonry in the Ottawa District is exceptionally good, the work exemplified in the majority of lodges with marked ability and careful attention to details. In a few have I found it necessary to impress upon the officers the desire of Grand Lodge for uniformity of work, my efforts in that direction being well received and evidently appreciated. The instructions given in the secret work by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, P. G. M., at the installation of the D. D. G. M.'s last year, ought to be repeated to those chosen for the position this year as it cannot be otherwise than productive of good to the Craft.

GRIEVANCES, NONE.

The spirit of peace and harmony prevails in the Ottawa District to an extent not equalled in its whole history. "All glory to the Most High."

DEATHS.

During the past year the destroyer has dealt kindly with us. Only a few have passed over to the silent majority. Among the names who have passed away and who have shed lustre on the good old craft, Wor. Bro. Edward McKay's will hold a place in the memory of the brethren of Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, of which he was a member, for years to come. Through his efforts is largely due the fact that they are in possession

and now occupy one of the best furnished lodge rooms in the district. Renfrew Lodge also mourns the loss of Bro. James Arnott. Prince of Wales Lodge, Ottawa, has suffered by the death of Bro. James Graham. St. John's Lodge, Carleton Place, laments the death of Bro. Rev. John Raine; Chaudiere Lodge, Ottawa, the departure of W. C. Walters; Doric Lodge, Ottawa, J. Wickham and J. Graham; Dalhousie Lodge, Ottawa, James F. Ward, D. Carmichael and J. W. McDonald.

DEDICATIONS.

February 27th, 1896, the beautiful new hall at Renfrew, recently occupied by Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, was dedicated by the M. W. the Grand Master at an Especial Communication of Grand Lodge. A number of G. L. officers were present on the occasion, including R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, R. W. Bros. J. H. Burritt and David Burr, P. D. D. G. M.'s of the Ottawa District, R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M. of Toronto District, and a large number of the brethren of the district. Owing to other engagements I was unable to be present till the evening. The lodge room is most beautifully and tastefully furnished throughout and supplied with every requisite for carrying on the work, and is a great credit to the district. In the evening an at-home was held in the lodge room, which was crowded to its utmost capacity, so largely were the invitations accepted, a proof that the craft is very popular in Renfrew. It should be a source of gratification to the members of Renfrew Lodge to feel that their handsome hall was so greatly admired. Wor. Bro. Wm. McKay, the W. Master, received his guests with great warmth and paid them every attention, which certainly contributed largely to the pleasure enjoyed on this memorable occasion.

BY-LAWS.

The following lodges submitted to me new by-laws for the approval of the M. W. the Grand Master: Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville; Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew.

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.

Civil Service, No. 148, Ottawa; Dalhousie, No. 52, Ottawa; Mattawa, No. 405, Mattawa.

DISPENSATIONS.

The following dispensations were granted through me by the M. W. the Grand Master: Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa, at home; Bonnechere, No. 433, Egansville, install officers.

I granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend di-

vine service clothed as Masons: Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond, 8th September, 1885; Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte, 1st September, 1895; St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place, 21st June, 1896; Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior, 21st June, 1896; Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville, 21st June, 1896; Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark, 28th June, 1896; Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew, 28th June, 1896.

VISITS.

As directed by the M. Worshipful the Grand Master on the 26th August, 1895, I instituted, dedicated and installed the officers of Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville, and delivered their warrant. Wor. Bro. Mills and Bro. John A. McDonald, of Madawaska Lodge, 196, together with Wor. Bros. Craig, McKinnon and Hay, of Renfrew Lodge, 122, and Wor. Bro. Williamson, of St. John's Lodge, Carlton Place, assisting me on the occasion at the close of the ceremony. The visiting brethren were entertained in a very hospitable manner by the W. M., Wor. Bro. Purvis, and the members of the new lodge. During the year this lodge has not made the progress that it ought, failing health causing the removal of Wor. Bro. Purvis to California, and as a consequence it has suffered for the want of his guiding hand. The present Master, Wor. Bro. Fraser, does not speak hopefully for its future in the report I have received, notwithstanding the means used to place it on a sure foundation. At my request R. W. Bro. Barr, P. D. D. G. M., W. Bro. Dickson and Wor. Bro. McKinnon, of Renfrew Lodge, have each in their turn been present at the meetings on different occasions to assist in placing it on a sure footing, but evidently with little success. To these brethren my thanks are due for their valuable assistance. I have also kept in constant touch with them myself and encouraged them in every way possible.

Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, Ottawa: On the 24th Sept., 1896, I visited this lodge, and was cordially received by W. Bro. W. A. Bangs, the I. P. M., the W. M., W. Bro. J. A. Clark, being unavoidably absent. All the other officers of the lodge were in their places, and judging from the manner in which the routine work was performed, I am safe in saying they are a capable lot of officers. W. Bro. Bangs assured me of the W. M.'s ability to do good work. None of the candidates appearing for advancement the lodge was closed in harmony. I regret that I could not again visit this lodge, which is now presided over by W. Bro. Fair, a brother that is in every way well qualified to fill this important position.

Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark : On the 1st October, 1895, the occasion of my official visit to the lodge, I was accompanied by W. Bro. J. D. Taylor, of St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place. This lodge is ably presided over by W. Bro. J. H. Wilson, whose acquaintance I was glad to form. All the officers were in their places. There being no work, at my request the W. M. opened in the three degrees, in each of which I instructed the brethren in the secret work, explaining at the same time the desire of Grand Lodge for more uniformity in this respect. The brethren were pleased to listen, and expressed their appreciation of this effort on the part of Grand Lodge to have more perfect work. Although the clouds have hung heavily over the lodge for the past two or three years owing to the death of R. W. Bro. Bothwell, P. D. D. G. M., they are now happily passing away ; a brighter future is before them, and new life has been infused into the brethren. W. Bro. Wilson, proving a wise ruler, has certainly contributed to this end. The attendance was good, quite a number of the brethren being present. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served at Bro. Dobbie's, where a social hour was spent.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128, Pembroke : I visited this lodge on October 3rd, 1895, and was received by Wor. Bro. J. C. Stewart, W. M., most cordially, a large number of the brethren being present, including M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., Grand Master of the G. L. of Canada, whom this lodge is proud to claim as a member, also R. W. Bro. Jas. H. Burritt, P. D. D. G. M., another distinguished member of the craft to whom I am indebted for assistance rendered during my term of office. The W. M. and his officers conferred the first and third degrees in a very able manner as is usual in this lodge, after which the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall where an elaborate supper was served, closing a very enjoyable visit.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, Renfrew : On October 7th, 1895, I paid my official visit to this lodge, receiving a very hearty welcome from the large number of brethren who were present, prominent among whom were R. W. Bro. David Burr, a P. D. D. G. M. of this district, W. Bros. Rev. Dr. Campbell, E. McKay, Jas Craig and a number of other Past Masters of the lodge. The second and third degrees were conferred by Wor. Bro. David Brownlie, W. M., assisted by W. Bro. Wm. Dickson. The officers of this lodge are well up in their work and a credit to the craft. Since my official visit the brethren have taken possession of their new hall, which was dedicated by the M. W. the Grand Master on February 27th, 1896. All I

can say is, it is a model of elegance, being richly and beautifully furnished throughout and supplied with every convenience for carrying on the work. Before closing my report, I cannot refrain from again alluding to the loss this lodge has sustained in the death of Wor. Bro. Edward McKay, whose active interest in everything pertaining to the lodge endeared him to the brethren.

Civil Service Lodge, No 148, Ottawa: On November 12th, 1895, my official visit to this lodge was a very pleasant one, the Masonic Hall, Sparks street, being completely filled by the members and visiting brethren of other lodges. There was also present my predecessor in office, R. W. Bro. E Abbot Johnstone, of St. John's Lodge, 21*a*, VanKleek Hill; R. Wor. Bros. Dr. Church, Butterworth, Rea and McFarlane, P. D. D. G. M.'s of the Ottawa District. It is needless to say my reception by Wor. Bro. J. C. Saunders, W. M., was strictly in accordance with the history of this lodge when receiving the representative of the G. M. Two candidates were initiated, one by the W. M. and the other by Wor. Bro. H. P. Macdonald, I. P. M. The degree was conferred on both candidates in a faultless manner, the subordinate officers being equally proficient. The feature of the evening which deserves special mention was the excellent music rendered by the Masonic choir of this lodge. The lodge being called from labor to refreshment, the brethren proceeded to the banquet hall and were entertained right royally by the officers and members of Civil Service Lodge, after which the lodge was closed, happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

Doric Lodge, No. 58, Ottawa: On December 6th, 1895, the occasion of my visit to this lodge, W. Bro. G. W. Shouldis, W. M., and his officers gave me a royal reception, the Masonic hall being filled to overflowing by the members of the craft in the city, a circumstance which led me to think the craft was in evidence in the capitol of the Dominion I had the pleasure of meeting on that occasion R. W. Bro. C. R. T. Garrioch, D. D. G. M. of the Ottawa District, in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and R. Wor. Bro. Wm. Garrioch, P. D. D. G. M. of the same, R. W. Bros. Stephens, Taylor and Rea were also present. Although not having an opportunity of seeing any work done, I concluded from the manner in which the W. M. conducted the meeting that he was a capable officer, which was afterwards verified by W. Bro. Luke, I. P. M. The election of officers took place at this meeting and from the selection that was made I have not the least doubt but this lodge will maintain the high position it has reached for good and efficient work and which it has held for so many

years. The brethren of Doric entertained their guests in the banqueting hall in magnificent style, adding much to the pleasure of the evening.

St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place: On the 27th December, 1895, I had the pleasure of visiting this lodge, and on that occasion I installed the officers assisted by R. W. Bro. Dr. Church, P. D. D. G. M. This is a lodge of great numerical strength and sound financially. Their lodge is owned by themselves and very neatly furnished. Upwards of seventy members were present on the evening of my visit. Wor. Bro. Edwin Pickup, the W. M. whom I installed, is a son of the late R. W. Bro. Dr. Pickup, a P. D. D. G. M. of the Ottawa District, who on assuming the Master's chair gave evidence at once of his ability to preside and of the judgment of the brethren in selecting him for this important position. Under his rule the lodge will continue to prosper. Another pleasing event was the presentation of a well filled purse to Wor. Bro. McNabb, the oldest member of the lodge, for services rendered during the earlier struggles of the lodge. R. Wor. Bro. Dr. Church, of Ottawa, who first saw the light under the charter of St. John's, in a very neat speech made the presentation, which was modestly replied to by the worthy brother. A banquet followed in the Mississippi hotel, which certainly reflected great credit on Bro. McIlquhan as a caterer.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, Ottawa: On January 8th, 1896, one of the most notable gatherings that has taken place during my term of office was that held under the auspices of this lodge, when the members tendered a reception to M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., Pembroke, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P., of Beamsville, Deputy Grand Master. All the leading Masons of the city and district and many from other cities were present. The Grand Lodge officers were received by a deputation of the lodge, headed by Wor. Bro. Myles Berkett, W. M. Among others present were His Worship Mayor Boothwick, W. M. of Prince of Wales Lodge; R. W. Bro. Garrioch, Ottawa County; R. W. Bros. Wm. Rea and Taylor, P. D. D. G. M.'s, R. W. Bro. T. B. Flint, M. P., of Nova Scotia; Bro. Wm. Mulock, M. P., and all the Masters of the city lodges. The reception over, Bro. John Sweetman, who has been Tyler for the past forty years, was called forward and presented by the W. M. the Grand Master with a magnificent bronze clock, mounted with the insignia of the Order and suitably engraved. Bro. Sweetman acknowledged the gift in a neat speech and retired. An adjournment was made to the banquet hall, where an enjoyable evening was spent in speech,

song and sentiment. The W. M. and officers of this lodge are well up in their work and a credit to the Craft.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa: On the 22nd January, 1896, I was present at an at-home held by this lodge in the Masonic Hall, Sparks street. A large number of distinguished Masons accepted invitations, including Most Wor. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P., Deputy Grand Master. A very enjoyable evening was spent. The members of this lodge are noted for their hospitality. W. Bro. Wilson presided on this occasion in his usually happy manner. On the 19th May, 1896, I visited this lodge officially and met a large number of visiting brethren who were invited, belonging to the order of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who were then in session in the city. The ceremony of initiating a candidate was performed by W. Bro. Wilson and his officers in a manner which left no room for criticism. The work done in this lodge is of a very high character. The election of officers was then proceeded with, resulting in the selection of capable brethren to carry on the work of this prosperous lodge. An adjournment was made to the banqueting hall, after which the brethren dispersed well pleased with their visit to Fidelity Lodge.

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte: On April 3rd, 1896, I visited this lodge in company with Bros. McCreary, Henderson and Richman, of Madawaska Lodge, Arnprior. The reception we met with from the W. M. and brethren was of the most cordial description, a large number of the members being present, including Past Masters Wor. Bros. R. Pollock and J. M. Munro, who have for years filled the office of Secretary and Treasurer respectively to the entire satisfaction of the members. A candidate was then initiated into the mysteries of the entered apprentice degree, and the manner in which the work was performed by Wor. Bro. Lewis Coulter, the W. M., and his officers deserves nothing but the highest praise. Altogether a most enjoyable visit was made to this lodge. A friendly feeling exists between the lodges in this vicinity, the brethren frequently visiting each other, and one that I have endeavored to encourage as much as possible, which has helped greatly to create more zeal in the cause of Freemasonry throughout this part of the district. The visitors were entertained at the close of the proceedings in a manner worthy of the Almonte brethren.

Madawaska Lodge, 196, Arnprior: On the 13th April, 1896. This being the lodge of which I am a member, I have had every opportunity of seeing the work done, and I feel a pardonable pride in the fact that no more capable officer is to be

found in the district than W. Bro. Jas. E. Thompson, W. M. of this lodge. The lodge has prospered under his care in a remarkable manner. He is ably assisted in his work by the senior and junior Wardens, both bright Masons, the other officers being equally efficient. On the occasion of my visit on above date, the W. M. was unfortunately called away on professional business. The chair was ably filled however by W. Burwash, I. P. M., who takes an active in the welfare of the lodge. A large delegation from Mississippi Lodge, Almonte, paid a friendly visit to their brethren of Madawaska Lodge, and were most heartily welcomed by the presiding officer. A candidate for initiation being in waiting, W. Bro. Lewis Coulter, W. M. of Mississippi Lodge, kindly consented to perform the ceremony, which was faultlessly conferred, and drew forth deserved praise. I consider such friendly visits are productive of good to the craft, and ought to be encouraged as much as possible as a means towards the more perfect rendering of the work At the close the visiting brethren were entertained socially, returning home well pleased with their visit.

Mattawa Lodge No. 405, Mattawa: On 5th May, 1896, I visited this lodge and was kindly received by W. Bro. Dr. C. W. Haentschel, W. M., officers and members, quite a number being present, including W. Bros. Mackay, I. P. M., McCracken and De Sousa, all indefatigable workers in the craft. R, W. Bro. R. A. Klock, P. D. D. G. M., who has done much for this lodge, was unavoidably absent. I am indebted to this distinguished brother for his advice and valuable assistance during my term of office. This lodge reports no arrearage of dues, a fact that speaks well for the W. M. and his Secretary, Bro. A. N. Grasswell, who is certainly a model one. W. Bro. Dr. Haentschel and officers conferred the first degree on two candidates in a most perfect manner. The building occupied by this lodge is owned by themselves and very handsomely furnished, having every convenience for carrying on the work and entertaining their visitors, which they know how to do.

Builders Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa: On the 12th June, 1896, I visited this lodge officially. Builders Lodge is undoubtedly a model one, every care is taken to entrust its affairs to able hands, and certainly under the rule of W. Bro. A. W. Huband it has maintained its high reputation as being one of the most prosperous lodges in the district. This was fully borne out by hearing the financial report for the year read. W. Bro. Huband the retiring W. M., and his officers then conferred the first degree on a candidate in a manner worthy of praise, after which I had the pleasure of installing the officers for the ensuing year, assisted by R. W. Bro. Fred Cook, P. G. J. W. This

was heightened by the fact that they had chosen R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea to act as Master for the year, in whose hands I am quite sure it will be guided as successfully as in the past. The Past Master's night, under the auspices of this lodge, held in the Masonic Hall on the evenlng of Feb. 26th, 1896, was one of the most successful gatherings of the craft ever held in Ottawa. The different chairs were occupied by the Past Masters of the lodge. The gathering took the form of a reception to the Grand Master, W. R. White, Q. C., and to the Deputy Grand Master, Wm. Gibson, M. P. In addition to these distinguished brethren there were also present : M. W. Bro. Hon. J. M. Gibson, Hamilton, P. G. M., and R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary. Owing to a very pressing engagement I was unable to be present at this large gathering, and as a consequence unable to report on it as it deserves. But the fact of it having been held under the auspices of Builders Lodge is a guarantee of its success.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond : On the 24th June, 1896, I paid my official visit to this lodge and was welcomed in a very cordial manner by the W. M. W. Bro. R. H. Grant, and his Secretary, Bro. Kemp, who reside about five miles from the lodge. In fact this lodge is situated in the heart of one of the best agricultural districts in eastern Ontario, and its members are in consequence scattered in a wide circle round it. Still, quite a number put in an appearance, and although there was no work on, the W. M. opened the lodge in the three degrees in a faultless manner, in each of which I instructed them in the work pertaining to them, all of which was received with evident pleasure and great attention. Wor. Bro. Hugh Riley, Treasurer, takes an active interest in the lodge and guards its interests well, and as far as I could judge the lodge appears to be prosperous.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa : On the 26th June, 1896, I paid an official visit to this lodge, and was received with the utmost cordiality by His Worship Mayor Borthwick, the Worshipful Master. Prince of Wales Lodge has done itself honor in retaining his services for a second term. A more affable and courteous brother could not be found to fill this important position, and it speaks well for the craft, that amidst the many duties he has to perform as chief ruler of the capital city of the Dominion, he can find sufficient time to devote a part to its interests. He is surrounded with a capable class of officers who are devoted to him, and who assist him in every way in the well ruling and governing of the lodge. During the evening a candidate was initiated in a very impressive manner, W. Bros. Northwood and Turley

taking part in a manner which proved beyond doubt that the work in this lodge is well done. My visit to Prince of Wales Lodge will be remembered as one of the most pleasing during my term of office.

St John's Lodge, No. 21*a*, Vankleek Hill: On the 29th June, 1896, in company with R. W. Bro. David Taylor, of Ottawa, P. D. D. G. M., I officially visited this lodge, and was heartily welcomed by the W. M., Wor. Bro. S. N. Morrison, and his officers. A large number of the brethren were in attendance, including R. W. Bro. E. Abbott Johnson, immediate P. D. D. G. M. of this district, and V. W. Bro. Marsden. This lodge is in a flourishing condition, and are taking steps to provide themselves with a new hall for the proper carrying on of the work. Hitherto they have met in a room occupied by another society, which has nothing to recommend it, and clearly antagonistic to the provisions of the Constitution. In the hands of W. Bro. Morrison and his indefatigable Secretary, W. Bro. Metcalfe, whom it is a pleasure to meet, I am confident the arrangements that are being made for removal will be carried to completion. The first degree was conferred on a candidate by the W. M., his Wardens and officers in a truly perfect manner, after which the brethren were entertained in a manner befitting the craft. Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186, Plantagenet: On the 30th June, 1896, I visited this lodge with my companion, R. W. Bro. Taylor, and were met at Brown's wharf by Wor. Bro. John Smith, its faithful Secretary, and Bro. F. Kanes, Junior Warden, who had a conveyance in readiness to drive us to Plantagenet. This lodge is in a very non-progressive state, not from any want of zeal on the part of the few faithful brethren who compose it, but simply for want of nourishment. In its present location no improvement can be looked for, surrounded as it is by a French speaking population. An effort was made some time ago to move it to Riceville owing to its greater advantages and for which a dispensation was granted by a former D. D. G. M., but was never carried into effect; this is to be regretted as a good many of the brethren still think its prospects would improve by such removal and I strongly advised them to do so. The Wor. Master, Wor. Bro. Geo. A. Ryan, and his officers received me in a proper manner and gave me a pleasant welcome. Their being no work I requested him to open his lodge in the three degrees, which he did in a very satisfactory manner. The instructions that I gave in the work were listened to attentively and evidently appreciated. Wor. Bro. Franklin takes an active interest in this lodge, being the

I. P. M., and would do anything to see it prosper. The true spirit of Masonry abides in the hearts of the brethren of Plantagenet Lodge.

SECRETARIES.

I could not close this report without tendering to them my sincere thanks for the prompt and excellent manner they have discharged their duties.

IN CONCLUSION.

The prosperity existing in the Ottawa District is largely due to the efforts of the conscientous, painstaking officers who have preceded me in the occupancy of this important office, nearly all of whom I met still laboring for its welfare. It will be a pleasure indeed to me, M. W. sir, officers and members of Grand Lodge, to fall into line and render to my successor the same assistance that has on all occasions been given to me.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

ARCHD. HOOD, D. D. G. M.,
Ottawa District, No. 16.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Ottawa District, No. 16, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year.	Membership. Decrease during year	Degree's conf'r'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
21*a*	St. John's..	Vankleek Hill..	46	6	..	6	6	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	12	2	14	15	.....	20	$ 202 00	Dec. '95.	$80 00	Good.	Yes	.....
52	Dalhousie..	Ottawa.....	108	..	9	3	4	5	1	..	2	8	..	..	13	2	15	22	$37 50	41	350 00	June 24, '95	1200 00	Good.	Yes	Yes.
58	Doric.....	Ottawa	100	2	..	8	9	8	..	..	1	8	..	..	2	12	2	14	32	.....	30	207 75	.....	Good.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
63	St. John's...	Carleton Place	100	12	8	11	13	10	1	..	2	3	..	1	13	8	21	36	44 85	21	257 10	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1200 00
122	Renfrew	Renfrew	88	8	..	8	5	5	..	..	1	..	..	2	13	4	17	25	25 00	8	46 50	Dec. '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	700 00
128	Pembroke..	Pembroke.....	107	..	..	8	9	10	..	..	4	4	..	..	14	1	15	27	.....	24	263 40	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	1000 00
147	Mississippi	Almonte.....	67	3	..	2	4	4	1	..	1	..	..	..	9	2	11	20	.....	15	200 50	Dec. 27, '95..	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
148	Civil Serv..	Ottawa.....	77	5	..	4	3	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	9	1	10	28	60 90	13	260 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	200 00
159	Goodwood.	Richmond.....	47	3	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	10	11	.....	21	.....	July 3, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	400 00
177	The Build's	Ottawa	109	12	2	7	4	7	5	..	1	..	..	..	12	1	13	32	54 75	9	183 60	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	100 00
186	Pl'ntagenet	Plantagenet.....	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	4	2	6	8	.....	15	72 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Not good	Yes	.....
196	Mad'waska	Arnprior.....	62	7	..	7	6	6	2	..	2	..	..	..	13	1	14	27	48 00	20	88 67	Jan. '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
209	Evergreen.	Lanark.....	31	4	..	4	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	3	16	10	20 00	8	93 00	June 24, '95	196 17	Good.	Yes	200 00
231	Fidelity.....	Ottawa.....	76	12	..	9	9	7	2	3	1	..	..	..	12	1	13	20	.....	10	124 00	Dec. 24, '95	Good.	Good.	Yes	100 00
264	Chaudiere .	Ottawa.....	95	3	1	3	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	14	..	14	15	.....	41	273 25	Jan. '94	Good.	Good	Yes	.....
371	Pr. of Wal's	Ottawa.....	69	..	..	1	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	1	12	..	12	20	.....	10	300 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	.....	Yes.
405	Mattawa....	Mattawa.....	84	3	..	10	12	10	..	2	4	..	..	..	14	5	19	12	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	600 00
433	Bonnech're	Eganville	25	7	..	7	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	1	13	12	.....	3	.....	Mar. 10, '96.	V'ry Bad	Poor.	Yes	.....

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 17.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have much pleasure in presenting my report on the condition of Masonry in this District.

When I accepted the office my first act was to issue a circular to each lodge of my election, and asking that a copy of each summons be mailed to me, which I think has been fairly complied with.

I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the honor conferred on me. The district contains five lodges, situated from Keewatin in the west to Sault Ste. Marie in the east, 1035 miles. A magnificent stretch of country for a D. D. G. M. to visit.

My first visit was to Pequonga Lodge, No. 414, on Rat Portage, accompanied by P. D. D. G. M. R. W. Bro. Ferguson and V. W. Bro. Carmichael, Grand Steward. The second degree was conferred by W. M. Bro. McMurphy, which was fairly well done. The Senior and Junior Wardens are well up in their parts, but do not attend as regularly as is expected by the members, and the idea or rule of electing to the high position of W. M. of one of the Wardens when they do not take an active interest in their lodge, is to my mind hardly in keeping with the custom of Masonry (where merit should rule). Pequonga Lodge has an excellent Secretary, Bro. W. A. Weir, who is bound to come to the front rank. The fourth degree was exceedingly well done and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed.

Keewatin Lodge, No. 417: I visited shortly afterwards. Another royal welcome, but no degree work. The officers of this lodge are well up in their work, but unfortunately they have no material coming in. I also had the pleasure of installing the officers of this lodge on St. John's day. The amount of arrears of dues in both these lodges is very great and the members should endeavor to reduce the amounts.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to visit the three lodges in the eastern end of the district. On account of sickness and short handed in our office I was compelled to work long hours and impossible for me to leave. When I received the honor I fully intended to visit every lodge in the district, and I assure the brethren in the east that I very much regret not being able to do so, and I offer my apology for my seemingly

neglect. I have visited quite frequently before my appointment Shuniah Lodge, Port Arthur, and Fort William Lodge, and know the condition and prospects of both. The former is in good condition and the prospects fair. The latter is not so well off. They have a good set of officers, but factions have entered into the lodge and unless a radical change is made and the affairs of the lodge conducted in a proper manner the future for this lodge will not be very bright, although they should have the most flourishing lodge in the district. I learn that Keystone Lodge, No. 412, Sault Ste. Marie, is in first class condition, and the officers well up in their work. I intend to visit them on my way to Grand Lodge, but that will be too late for this report.

Dispensations issued by me : Pequonga, two, Fort William, one, to attend divine service.

On the whole Masonry may be said to have held its own throughout the district, with very good prospects for the future.

In this unorganized district where the lodges are so far apart and travelling expensive, may I not ask Most Worshipful Sir if a certain amount could not be allowed from Grand Lodge funds to assist in the matter of paying the D. D. G. M.'s expenses. All the lodges in this district are poor, and it is a very great hardship to ask them to defray the cost of official visits of the representative of the Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, Most Worshipful Sir, I take the opportunity of expressing my thanks for the very many kindnesses I have received at the hands of the brethren in the district. I have not received all reports from the lodges and in consequence the tabulated form is not complete.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. More, D. D. G. M.,
Algoma District, No. 17.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Algoma District, No. 17, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodge.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership.	Total No. of all Mem.	Increase during year.	Decrease during year.	Degree's conf'd	E. A.	F. C.	M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearages.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can W. M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
287	Shuniah	Port Arthur		95	7	8		4	2	2	2	1	4	4	...	...		14	2	16	18	122 95	37	$ 444 85	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	.....	800 00
414	Pequinga	Rat Portage		85	1	10		...	1	3	3	...	3	6	1	10		14	2	16	15	.....	24	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Good.	Yes	500 00
417	Keewatin	Keewatin		52	...	9		...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...		12	...	12	11	.....	15	132 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Poor.	Yes	500 00

NIPISSING DISTRICT No. 18.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN:

I have much pleasure in submitting to you a brief report on the condition of Masonry in the Nipissing District, each lodge of which I visited officially as D. D. G. M.

My first official act was to appoint Rev. Bro. W. H. French District Chaplain, and W. Bro. Chas. Allen District Secretary, both members of Golden Rule Lodge, No. 409.

Algonquin Lodge: On Oct. 18th, 1895, I visited Algonquin Lodge, No. 434, Emsdale, for the purpose of consecrating and dedicating the lodge, and for the installation of officers. In this I was assisted by R. W. Bro. Roper, V. W. Bro. Davidson, W. Bro. Reece, and other visiting brethren. I paid my official visit to this lodge on Feb. 4th, 1896. The W. M. being absent I took the chair. One brother was raised to the third degree. The Senior Warden opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees very well The attendance was twenty-three. In this lodge the books are well kept, and the financial standing good. The lodge-room is neatly and tastefully furnished. The members are quite enthusiastic, and their future prospects very promising.

Granite Lodge: On Feb 5th, 1896, I visited Granite Lodge, No. 352, Parry Sound. There being no work to do, the W. M. opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees very creditably. By special train fourteen members of Algonquin Lodge visited this lodge, so that it was comfortably filled. The brethren own the building in which the lodge meets. Their lodge-room being rather small they contemplate building an addition to it which will make it second to none in the district. The books are well kept and the financial standing good.

Nickel Lodge: I visited Nickel Lodge, No. 427, Sudbury, for the purpose of consecrating and dedicating the lodge. V. W. Bro. Howes, W. Bro. Howie, and other visiting brethren assisted me in this ceremony. They have here a very fine lodge-room, and a good attendance. It is the strongest lodge in the district, having a membership of over ninety. When the dedication ceremony was finished one candidate was initiated. The work was exceedingly well done by the W. M.,

ably assisted by his officers. The books are well and creditably kept.

Nipissing Lodge: On February 13th, 1896, I visited Nipissing Lodge, No. 420, North Bay. This is the second strongest lodge in the district, and has seventy-eight members. W. Bro. McKnight was in the East. As there was no work the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees in a workmanlike manner. The Secretary is a painstaking, efficient officer, and the books are well kept. There was but a fair attendance.

Strong Lodge: I visited Strong Lodge, No, 423, Sudbury, on February 19th, 1889. W. Bro. Muir was in the chair, assisted by W. Bro. Wicket. Three brethren were passed to the second degree. The work was very creditably done. I am much pleased to state that this lodge is in a fair way to prosper and I have no doubt they will render a good account of themselves in the future. I examined the books and found them very well kept. The brethren of this lodge from Burk's Falls are anxious to have a lodge in Burk's Falls, and I trust in the near future this will be granted them.

Muskoka Lodge: On February 25th, 1896, I visited Muskoka Lodge, No. 360, Bracebridge. W. Bro. Mills was in the chair. There being no work the W. M. and his officers opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees very accurately. The attendance was fair and the lodge room one of the best furnished in the district. The Secretary, R. W. Bro. Huber, P. D. D. G. M., is so well known as an enthusiastic, energetic Mason that comment on his work is hardly necessary. It goes without saying that the books are well kept. This lodge is in a prosperous condition.

Unity Lodge: I visited Unity Lodge, No. 376, Huntsville, on March 11th, 1896. The lodge was called in the afternoon at 2 30 p.m. for work. The work was exemplified in the three degrees by Rt. Wor. Bro. Sacret, assisted by W. Bros. Shearer and McKenny, and was extremely well done. There was a large attendance. They have now a very fine lodge room, which is handsomely furnished. The Secretary, Bro. Fisher, is a very efficient, capable officer and he has a very fine set of books exceedingly well kept. The lodge was again called at 7.30 p m. for the purpose of dedicating the lodge room. In this ceremony I was ably assisted by Rt. Wor. Bros. Huber and Roper, W. Bros. Mills, Kilpatrick, Wicket, McCallum and the P. M.'s of Unity Lodge.

Golden Rule: Officially I visited my mother lodge on June 22nd, 1896. W. Bro. Brown in the east. One brother was raised to the third degree at which I assisted. This being my own lodge I cannot say much save that it is in a fair condition.

The books are very carefully kept by Very Wor Bro. Davidson and the financial standing is good.

DISPENSATIONS.

The following dispensations have been granted by me: Unity Lodge, Aug. 25th, 1865, to attend divine service; Strong Lodge, Aug. 9th, 1895, Bro Jackson's funeral: Golden Rule, Bro. Scott's funeral; Nickel Lodge, Sudbury, Feb. 12th, dedicating lodge room; Unity Lodge, Huntsville, March 11th, dedicating lodge room; Unity Lodge, Huntsville, June 28th, divine service; Strong Lodge, Sundridge, June 28th, divine service; Nipissing Lodge, North Bay, June 28th, divine service.

In conclusion, I desire to return my thanks to the brethren who elected me D. D. G. M. and to the brethren of Nipissing District generally for the very cordial manner in which they have always received and treated me.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. A. Mowry, D. D. G. M.,
Nipissing District, No. 18.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Nipissing District, No. 18, from June 24th, 1895, to June 24th, 1896.

Number of Lodges.	Name of Lodge.	Location.	Membership. Total No. of all Mem.	Membership. Increase during year	Membership. Decrease during year	Degree's conf'r'd. E. A.	Degree's conf'r'd. F. C.	Degree's conf'r'd. M. M.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings held. Regular.	Meetings held. Emergent.	Meetings held. Total.	Average attendance of members.	Amount paid for relief.	No. of members 12 months in arrears.	Total of all Arrearges.	Date of last G. L. Return.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Lodge.	Can. W.M. work all degrees.	Insurance.
352	Granite	Parry Sound	64	6	...	5	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	13	1	14	17	$25 00	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Fair.	Good.	Yes	Yes.
360	Muskoka	Bracebridge	49	3	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	3	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 27, '96.	Good.	Good.	Yes	$ 300 00
376	Unity	Huntsville	62	14	...	10	11	12	4	1	2	...	...	...	13	3	16	224	.....	4	$ 35 00	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Bright.	Yes	500 00
409	Gold'n Rule	Gravenhurst	39	2	3	1	1	1	1	...	...	2	...	1	11	2	13	11	77 78	19	161 30	June 27, '96.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	500 00
420	Nipissing	North Bay	81	2	1	2	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	12	2	14	15	.....	25	202 25	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Fair.	Yes	400 00
423	Strong	Sundridge	43	...	3	6	7	5	1	...	4	4	...	1	12	2	14	13	.....	.....	.....	June 24, '96	Good.	Good.	Yes	.....
427	Nickel	Sudbury	92	17	...	15	7	8	2	1	...	...	...	...	13	6	19	171	.....	30	.....	Dec. 27, '94.	Good.	Extent.	Yes	300 00
434	Algonquin	Emsdale	25	12	...	12	10	9	...	...	1	...	...	...	13	2	15	12	.....	.....	.....	Dec. 27, '95.	Good.	Vy Good	Yes	200 00

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON WARRANTS.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, President of the Board of General Purposes, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board recommend that warrants be issued to Havelock Lodge, Havelock, Ontario District No. 12, to be numbered 435. Burns Lodge, Hepworth, North Huron District, No. 5, to be numbered 436. Tuscan Lodge, Sarnia, St. Clair District, No. 2, to be numbered 437. Harmony Lodge, Toronto, Toronto District, No. 11, to be numbered 438, and that dispensations be continued to Alexandria Lodge, Alexandria, St. Lawrence District, No. 15, and to Algonquin Lodge, Minden, Ontario District No. 12.

The Board suggest to those interested in the formation of new lodges the advisability of avoiding duplication in naming such lodges.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

L. SECORD,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board, through the Committee on Printing and Supplies, beg to submit the following certified accounts, which are recommended to the Finance and Audit Committee for payment:

Spectator Printing Company, balance of account to 28th May, 1896	$ 86 02
Howell Lithographing Company, cheque books	32 00
The Copp Clark Co., certificates	200 25
John Eastwood & Co., stationery	74 39
	$392 66

The Board desire at this juncture to call the attention of members of Grand Lodge to the fact that certain reports are printed for their exclusive use previous to their appearance in the annual Proceedings of Grand Lodge. The Board regret having observed for two or three years past a disposition on the part of a few to throw these reports promiscuously about the hall or place of meeting, demonstrating in some degree a marked lack of appreciation of the object for which such work is undertaken. The printed reports are placed in the hands of members for perusal and consideration, and that all may be seized of the facts in order to intelligently discuss the matters contained therein. The Board therefore trust that it will not be

necessary in the future to call the attention of the brethren to this important fact.

The Board have pleasure at this time in presenting the different reports in an improved form, and hope that they will prove acceptable to all who desire to see the business of Grand Lodge conducted in a business-like manner by those chosen to transact the same.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN S. DEWAR,
Chairman of Sub-Committee on Printing and Supplies.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Printing and Supplies be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board through the Committee on Audit and Finance have audited the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and certify to their correctness.

All moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and the receipt acknowledged by that officer. Vouchers have been produced for all payments made by the Grand Treasurer, as authorized by Grand Lodge.

The Report of the Grand Secretary gives a full statement of the receipts from all sources as well as the other business transacted in his office.

The total receipts have been	$ 20,215 17
Expenditure	15,747 80
Balance	$ 4,467 37

The Receipts last year were $19,710.34, leaving a balance in favor of this year of $504.83.

The Expenditure last year was $17,238.24, leaving a balance in favor of this year of $1,490.44.

The Funds of Grand Lodge on 31st May, 1896, were as follows:

The British Canadian Loan & Investment Co., 4½ %	$ 15,000 00
Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co., 4½%	15,000 00
Western Canada Loan & Savings Co., 4½%	10,000 00
Canada Permanent Loan Co., 4½%	10,000 00
Landed Banking & Loan Co., 4½%	10,000 00
" " " 4½%	5,000 00
Ontario Loan and Debenture Co., 4½%	5,000 00
Canada Savings & Loan Co., 4½%	5,000 00
Owen Sound, Grey & Bruce Loan Co., 5%	5,000 06
	$ 80,000 00

CURRENT ACCOUNT:

Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce, 3rd of June, 1896	$ 10,986 38
	$ 90,986 38

Making the Investments as follows:

London	$25,000 00	
Hamilton	15,000 00	
Toronto	35,000 00	
Owen Sound	5,000 00	
	$80,000 00	
Balance in Bank	10,986 38	
		$90,986 38

Which amount represents the balances at the credit of the following accounts:

General Fund	$ 76,564 63
Asylum Fund	14,421 75
	$ 90,986 38

The Board have examined the following accounts, and finding them correct, recommend their payment:

Report on Foreign Correspondence	$ 100 00
Grand Secretary Balance of Incidentals to 31st May, 1896	94 09
Grand Secretary Advance for Incidentals	500 00
Grants to Benevolence	9,830 00
General Masonic Relief Association	112 65
Grand Secretary, Premium on Guarantee Bond	50 00
J. G. Cheyne & Co., Book Case, Grand Secretary's office.	27 35

The Committee on Printing and Supplies having reported that the following accounts are correct the Board recommend their payment.

Howell Lithographic Co., cheque books		$ 32 00
J. Eastwood & Co., stationery		74 39
Copp Clark & Co., Certificates		200 25
Spectator Printing Co., proceedings, etc.	$1,086 02	
Less paid on account	1,000 00	
		86 02

INVESTMENTS.

At the last meeting of Grand Lodge a resolution was adopted appointing a committee to re-invest certain funds of Grand Lodge which had become due and payable. The Board report that the following amounts were re-invested as follows for five years:

Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Co	$15,000 00
Landed Banking and Loan Co	5,000 00
Ontario Loan and Debenture Co	5,000 00
Canada Saving and Loan Co	5,000 00
And a new investment was made in the British Canadian Loan and investment Co. (which included $5,000 from the General Fund of Grand Lodge)	15,000 00

The Board have had under consideration the salary of the Grand Secretary and from the following facts that in 1872 the salary of the late Grand Secretary, T. B. Harris, was $1,600, with an assistant at $700 per annum—the number of lodges being at that time 276, membership 14,530, annual income $13,500, total fund $30,268—and whereas Grand Lodge has grown as follows: Lodges 356, membership 23,000, annual income $20,000, total fund $91,000—the Board are of the opinion that owing to the increase of labor in the office and to the fact that no increase of salary has been made during the past

twenty-two years, the said salary should be $2,000 per annum and recommend the same to the favorable consideration of Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

T. SARGANT,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Audit and Finance.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Thomas Sargant, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON BENEVOLENCE.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board, through the Committee on Benevolence, beg to report that they have received 313 applications which have been dealt with as follows:

161 applications from private lodges, of which 153 have been granted, amounting to ... .$	5,070 00
8 have been rejected.	
152 applications through Local Boards of Relief, of which 137 have been granted, amounting to	3,940 00
15 have been rejected.	
Special grants from Grand Lodge—	
To Mrs. Wilson	150 00
To Miss Mary Wilson	300 00
To Miss M. H. Harris.....	75 00
To Mrs. W. B. Simpson	100 00
To Bro. R. Farquharson.....	25 00
To Bro. Edward Green	25 00
Direct grants to Local Boards of Relief.....	145 00
Total grants	$9,830 00
Amount granted in 1895 was.....	$8,620 00
Increase in 1896	1,210 00

Returns have been made by all the Local Boards. Returns are lacking from Lodges Nos. 9, 21*a*, 32, 33, 48, 66, 103, 106, 114, 125, 136, 137, 161, 162, 222, 225, 300, 303, 307, 341, 362, 386, 388 and 412. The above lodges are requested to furnish these returns.

The Board regret that so large a number of lodges have neglected to make returns to Grand Lodge, and would recommend that in future no applications be considered unless the lodge making the application has made its return.

Seventy-two lodges receiving grants from Grand Lodge contributed $2,061.00, whilst 24 contributed nothing. The Local Boards of Relief which have contributed $2,332.01.

During the year of 1895 the sum of $13,013.01 was expended in benevolence, and the lodges receiving grants have made returns as follows:

Grand Lodge grants through lodges	$ 4,120 00
Grand Lodge grants through Local Boards	3,550 00
Grand Lodge grants, special	625 00
Grand Lodge grants to Local Boards	315 00
Grants made by 74 lodges	2,061 00
Grants made by Local Boards	2,332 01
Total	$ 13,013 01

The Board recommend:

1. That no payment be made on account of the grants made to new applicants until after investigation by the Inspector; that a general investigation of all grants be again made, as 6 years have elapsed since the last inspection, and that an enquiry be made into the affairs of all the Local Boards of Relief.

2. That a new regulation be added and numbered 16, to the rules respecting grants from the funds of Benevolence as follows: "No application for relief shall be considered unless it has the actual signature and postoffice address of the applicant;" and that a printed slip be attached to each cheque issued to beneficiaries as follows: "Your special attention is called to the Rule of Grand Lodge that no application for relief shall be considered unless it has the actual signature and postoffice address of the applicant."

3. That all Local Boards of Relief and Private Lodges be required to report to Grand Lodge *all transient* relief granted on a form to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, giving the name of applicant, name and number of lodge from which he hails, place of residence, and amount of relief granted, and that the lodges granting relief to transient brethren hailing from other jurisdictions, be requested to forward by letter or postcard immediately after granting such relief, the same information to Bro. John R. Pope, Secretary of the General Relief Association of the United States and Canada.

4. That no Board of Relief be recognized by Grand Lodge unless properly organized with a President or Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, or Secretary-Treasurer, and to consist of representatives from not less than two lodges; that a set of Model By-laws be prepared for the guidance of such Boards of Relief, said By-laws when adopted by the local Boards shall come into force when approved by the Grand Master on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Board of Benevolenae of Grand Lodge.

The Board fully recognize the good work performed by the General Relief Association of the United States and Canada.

The Board regret the negligent manner in which applications for relief have been prepared. Notwithstanding that a circular was issued to every lodge in the jurisdiction requiring them to have applications signed by the applicants, and to give the addresses of such applicants, the Board find upon examination of the several applications, that out of the 313 applications presented, 185 only were signed by the applicants, and the addresses were given in only 18 instances.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JOHN E. HARDING,
Chairman Sub-Committee on Benevolence.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board of Benevolence be received and (subsequently) adopted.

RETURNS BY LOCAL BOARDS OF RELIEF AS AT 31ST MAY, 1896.

Name of Board.	Receipts.								Expenditures.									
	Balance on Hand.	Direct Grants for Transient Relief.	Special Grants to Applicants.	From Private Lodges.	From Other Sources.	Total Receipts.	Balance due Treasurer.		Balance due Treasurer.	Special Grants to Applicants.	Transient Relief.	Local Relief.	Funeral Expenses.	Orders returned.	Other Payments.	Incidentals.	Total Expenditures.	Balance on Hand.
	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.		$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Barrie		50 00	60 00	70 00		180 00				60 00	7 00	95 00					162 00	18 00
Belleville	11 17		70 00	59 20		140 37				50 00	2 00	40 00				16	112 16	28 21
Brockville	69 16		90 00	91 80		250 96				90 00	10 70	81 94	16 00			32	198 96	52 00
Galt	2		50 00	60 00		110 02				50 00	3 25	55 00					108 25	1 77
Guelph	2 15		160 00	67 00	105 00	334 15	26 82			160 00	60 97	140 00					360 97	
Hamilton	179 34	100 00	570 00	255 90	29 67	1134 91				570 00	94 25	225 00					889 25	245 66
Kingston		20 00	320 00	166 30	25 00	531 30			1 58	320 00	46 52	128 00	34 20			1 00	531 30	
London	73 20	50 00	640 00	91 70	242 13	1097 03				640 60	63 17	250 25	14 50		48 85		1016 77	80 26
Oshawa			80 00	69 25	26 00	175 25			50	80 00		95 25				06	175 81	
Ottawa	144 31	25 00	330 00	238 25		737 56				330 00	35 12	218 50	16 00			4 75	604 37	133 19
Peterborough	11 16			45 00		56 16						11 05			10 00		21 05	35 11
St. Thomas	9		60 00			60 09	16			60 00						25	60 25	
Stratford	87 07	50 00	110 00	42 25	23 84	313 16				110 00	31 45	21 28				45	213 33	99 83
Toronto	667 87		910 00	240 22	124 22	1942 31				900 00	43 65	278 10	10 00	10 00			1241 75	700 56
Windsor	18 75	20 00	70 00			108 75				70 00	12 00						82 00	26 75
Woodstock	8 58		70 00			78 58				70 00	2 75					06	72 81	5 77

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board has had before them the following cases of grievances and appeals, and beg to report thereon as follows:

(1) Bruce Lodge, No. 341 vs. Bro. T. B. Miller. Adultery and seduction.

As will be seen in the Grand Lodge Proceedings of 1895, page 239, the Board recommended that Bro. Miller be summoned to appear before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the Craft for the offence proved. The Grand Secretary sent the summons to show cause to the Secretary of Bruce Lodge for service upon Bro. Miller, which was returned with a letter stating that Bro. Miller's address was unknown. The Board recommend that the Grand Secretary serve said notice for the next meeting of this Grand Lodge by mailing a copy of the same, registered, to the last known address of Bro. Miller.

(2) Corinthian Lodge, No. 96 vs. Bro. Tait. Cruelty to wife and children and desertion.

The proceedings in this case will be found on page 239 of Grand Lodge proceedings, 1895, when the Board recommended that Bro. Tait be summoned before this meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the offences proved.

Evidence has been produced that Bro. Tait was properly summoned and he having made default, the Board recommend that he be expelled from the Craft for the offences so charged and proved.

(3) Cataraqui Lodge vs. Bro. Paddon. Unmasonic conduct in holding Masonic communication with clandestine Masons in Kingston.

As will be seen by last year's Grand Lodge proceedings, page 239, the Board found the proceedings of Cataraqui Lodge had proved abortive, because they had proceeded with the trial and the rendering of the decision of guilt all in the first degree, in contravention of the Constitution, and Grand Lodge remitted the matter back to Cataraqui Lodge for further and proper action if they were so advised.

The Board are advised that the Lodge does not intend to take any further action in the matter, the complaint so far as these proceedings before Grand Lodge are concerned therefore fall to the ground.

(4) Pequonga Lodge, No. 414 vs. Bro. A. Campbell.

Bro. Campbell was convicted of theft by the Police Magistrate of Rat Portage on the 24th January, 1896, and was sentenced to fifteen months imprisonment in the Central Prison. He was duly charged with said offence before this lodge, tried and found guilty, suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion.

The Board recommend that Bro. Campbell be summoned before the next meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the offence charged.

(5) Re Bro. W. C. Wood vs. Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi.

This is a charge laid by Bro. W. C. Wood against the Delhi lodge and W. Bro. Crysler, a Past Master of the lodge, for holding a lodge meeting before the proper hour, and balloting for and initiating a

candidate without proper notice and refusing ten members permission to enter the lodge, who were against the acceptance of the candidate.

The Board recommend that this matter be referred to the Grand Master for the purpose of appointing a committee to investigate the charges made and report the result thereof to the Grand Master who shall take such action thereon as he may deem necessary.

"NOTE.—The M. W. the Grand Master appointed as members of "the committee R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, chairman, and R. W. "Bros. W. F. Miles and Thos. Allshire."

(6) Tuscan Lodge, No. 195 vs. Bro. W. T. H. Vanstone. Grossly unmasonic conduct.

This brother was summoned to appear before his lodge, failed to appear, was tried convicted and suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion.

The Board recommend that Bro. Vanstone be summoned to appear before the next meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the offence charged.

(7) St. John's Lodge, No. 82 vs. Bro. J. Clegg. Unmasonic conduct.

Bro. Clegg was convicted before the courts at Brantford, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

A charge for said offence was laid before this lodge, of which he was duly notified. He was tried, found guilty, suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion.

The Board recommend that Bro. Clegg be summoned to appear before the next meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled for the offence charged.

(8) Alvinston Lodge, No. 323 vs. Bro. John Conn. Obtaining money under false pretences, etc.

The evidence discloses the fact that the trial was had and the question of guilt or innocence and decision of the lodge given in the first degree, which is in contravention of Section 19 respecting Masonic trials. All the proceedings are therefore abortive. The Board might further add that the papers laid before them do not prove the charge against Bro. Conn.

(9) Fort William Lodge, No. 415 vs. W. Bro. Robt. McGregor. Assault, etc. See Grand Lodge proceedings, 1895, page 239.

W. Bro. McGregor was summoned before Grand Lodge at this meeting to show cause why he should not be expelled from the Craft for the offences charged. Bro. McGregor has appeared before the Board and in their opinion has shown sufficient cause why he should not be expelled. One of the papers placed before the Board by Bro. McGregor was a petition to Grand Lodge signed by forty out of the forty-six available members of his lodge asking that Grand Lodge do not expel him, and expressing a desire for his restoration.

The Board recommend that Bro. McGregor be not expelled, and that as he has succeeded in his defence, has come a great distance for the purpose, and is a poor man, his expense attending Grand Lodge be paid him upon proper voucher.

(10) Zeta Lodge, No. 410, Aronsburg vs. Dunning. Charge of adultery and causing separation between husband and wife.

Bro. Dunning was tried in Zeta Lodge, found guilty, suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion.

The Board are clearly of the opinion that the charge made is not sustained and recommend that the suspension of Bro. Dunning be removed.

(11) Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64 vs. R. W. Bro. A. E. Cooper.

This is an application of this lodge to Grand Lodge on behalf of V. W. Bro. Overell, its Secretary, and on its own behalf, owing to certain remarks embodied in R. W. Bro. Cooper's report, as acting D. D. G. M. of the London District in 1895, found in his report on page 76 of Grand Lodge proceedings, 1895, and to the paragraph on page 255 of the same proceedings in the report of the Board on the condition of Masonry.

The Board received and carefully considered the evidence produced before it, and having heard the explanations of the Secretary of the lodge, V. W. Bro. Overell, and also those of R. W. Bro. A. E. Cooper, and the latter having stated that he did not intend in his said report to convey the idea that the Secretary had refused to allow him to see the books of the lodge, as he had not really asked for them, and the Secretary having stated to the Board that he intended no discourtesy to the acting D. D. G. M., and the latter having accepted this statement, the Board recommend that the Secretary be relieved from any censure contained in or which might be implied from the reports above referred to.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES H. BURRITT,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

We are given to understand that our annual report is of great assistance to the new D. D. G. M.'s as it enables them to learn at a glance the true position of affairs in their respective districts, and to what points their immediate attention should be directed. This information in itself amply repays our efforts. It is, however, impossible to give an intelligent and useful review of the districts until the D. D. G. M.'s learn that the requirements of the Constitution must be respected by sending their reports to the Grand Secretary fourteen days before the meeting of Grand Lodge. Only three of the reports were received in time, viz., Toronto, No. 11, Ontario, No. 12, and Georgian, No. 9; two were not received until the first day of the meeting of the Board. The tabulated statement, which has been prepared by Grand Lodge at considerable expense and furnished to the D. D. G. M.'s, would, if received by us, have materially lightened our labors, as the condition of a district could be ascertained at a glance. Several of these statements are missing, while a couple of D. D. G. M.'s have entrusted us with the task of compiling same and attaching them to the reports. Proper work cannot be expected under such conditions. We have referred to this subject so often that we have almost despaired of an improvement.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

We are again enabled to congratulate Grand Lodge on the fidelity and zeal of the D. D. G. M.'s in the discharge of their duty. The great prosperity which we enjoy is no doubt attributable to the painstaking and intelligent band of brethren who, having the interest of the Craft at heart, make great sacrifices in order to honestly perform their alloted tasks. We are not surprised that several of the Grand Lodges in the United States should again favorably comment on the work of our D. D. G. M.'s. and refer to them as worthy of emulation. From the numerous kind references one will prove sufficient: The worthy brother who reports for the Grand Lodge of Alabama says, "Much pleasure do we derive from the perusal of these proceedings always, because there prevades the whole course of this Grand Lodge a spirit of frankness and fairness showing neither fear nor favor but reprehending when it is deserved and bestowing praise when praise is due. The visitation of the D. D. G. M.'s is always made thorough and complete, so that from the reports of these very important officers Grand Lodge is placed in full knowledge of what all Grand Lodges should be apprised, to enable them to see the condition of the Craft, its needs and how best to legislate for it." The visits of the D. D. G. M.'s have, as a rule, been made on the regular nights of meeting, in nearly every instance an exemplification of the work was given, matters pertaining to lodge government discussed, advice and counsel given and, instead of reporting defects and differences, the aim of the Grand Master's representatives has been to correct and harmonize, thus enabling the lodges to grow in wisdom and strength.

Of the 356 lodges in our jurisdiction only five of them have not received an official visit, viz.: Hammond, 327, in Erie District; Elysian, 212, in Frontenac District; and Shuniah, 287, Key Stone, 412, and Fort William, 415, in Algoma District. With regard to Elysian, 212, the D. D. G. M. has been enabled to obtain all necessary information, so that we know the lodge is financially sound, is making satisfactory progress and the officers are capable of doing good work. With regard to the three lodges in Algoma, information has been collected enabling us to report them as making satisfactory progress. While we are anxious that the D. D. G. M.'s should visit every lodge in their respective districts, still in this case we would remind Grand Lodge that the District contains five lodges, situated between Keewatin in the west and Sault Ste. Marie in the east, one thousand and thirty-five miles in extent, and when we consider that the lodges are not strong financially and are unable to defray the expenses of a visit, which expense must necessarily be borne by the D. D. G. M., and to complete the round of visits necessitates absence from home and business of several weeks, we can very well accept the excuse of the brother. He thinks that Grand Lodge should under the circumstances defray the travelling expenses of a D. D. G. M. We present his suggestion for your consideration. We trust that the above lodges will receive the care of the new D. D. G. M., and will look for a report of his visit next year. The record of visits and work is, however, unequalled, and Grand Lodge can be congratulated on the fact that the members of the Craft were well looked after. The D. D. G. M.'s of South Huron, Ottawa and St. Lawrence Districts make special reference to the wisdom of Grand Lodge in carrying out our recommendation by appointing M. W. Bro. Murray to instruct the D. D. G. M.'s before entering on the discharge of their duties. The D. D. G. M.'s had less hesitation in expressing their

opinion on the various matters submitted to them and uniformity in the work has been the inevitable result. We trust Grand Lodge will continue the practice and enable the new D. D. G. M.'s to receive the benefit of the M. W. Brother's excellent advice.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

We have always expressed strong views on the necessity of each D. D. G. M. holding a Lodge of Instruction in his district during the year. We have pointed out the beneficial effects on the various lodges which will flow from such action. We deplore the fact that during the last three or four years there has been a great falling off in this practice. We are of the opinion that Grand Lodge should make the holding of a Lodge of Instruction compulsory on every D. D. G. M. Splendid results are noticeable in Toronto, St. Clair, London and South Huron, where there were successful gatherings for instruction. We ask every D. D. G. M. to mark the new year with a decided improvement in this respect.

CONDITION OF THE CRAFT.

The Grand Master and Grand Lodge are to be congratulated on the continued prosperity of the Craft. Notwithstanding the hard times through which we are passing and the excitement created through alarming rumors of war between the Mother Country and other nations, the steady growth of our membership still continues, the majority of the lodges are financially sound and peace and harmony exist within our borders. The several visits made by the M. W. the Grand Master throughout the jurisdiction have been of incalculable benefit, and, with the assistance of his various D. D. G. M.'s, he has been enabled to promote good-fellowship and to induce leading and intelligent men in the community to knock at our doors for admission. We predict that the name of M. W. Bro. White will always be referred to by the members of the jurisdiction with love and respect. The reports of the various D. D. G. M.'s teem with information and advice, and we strongly recommend same to the careful persual of the brethren. From a review of same we are enabled to give in a few words the condition of the Craft in each district.

Erie District shows that the year has been one of prosperity. There has been a steady advancement all along the line. Everywhere a love for Masonry abounds and an earnest endeavor to master its tenets and a disposition to conserve all that is best and noblest in the Order. There is strongly noticeable a prevailing spirit of harmony and an absence of bickerings and quarrellings. The D. D. G. M. laid special stress on the work of officers and members, in order that each may attain the highest efficiency. There has been a large increase in membership, and, with two exceptions, all the Masters are efficient.

We find uniformity of work throughout the St. Clair District. All the lodges are working in accordance with the requirements of Grand Lodge. Although a decrease in membership is shown, this has been greatly brought about by the great number of suspensions for non-payment of dues and by resignations, and with one exception, all the W. M.'s can properly confer the degrees. It is noticeable that the prosperous lodges possess efficient secretaries.

The progress made in London District is fairly satisfactory, and were it not for a few lodges in which the officers work in a crude and uninteresting manner, the condition could be described as highly satisfactory; only one W. M. is unable to exemplify the degrees. The remarks of the D. D. G. M. with regard to the work are worthy of more than a passing notice. He not only gave attention

to producing correct work, but impressed on the members that payment of dues was a sacred obligation, and points out the manifest unfairness in allowing members to enjoy the privileges of the order while several years in arrears for dues. He is to be congratulated on the great improvement he has brought about in the collection of dues, although there is still room for improvement, as one particular lodge can boast of having nearly all its membership in arrear. The large increase in membership is very noticeable.

In South Huron we find a great improvement throughout the whole district. Only one lodge can be considered weak and that only in quality of work. There has been an increase in membership. The D. D. G. M. worked hard to produce lasting effects. He censures the secretaries of lodges where dues are in arrears. He gave special attention to this branch and in which we can report a decided improvement.

We are enabled to report a progressive spirit in nearly all the lodges in North Huron, and with one or two exceptions the work has been well done. Masonry is making satisfactory progress, not only with regard to the quality of the work, bnt also as regards the character and qualification of candidates. There is a marked improvement in floor work and in examination of candidates.

In Wilson District all the lodges are in a good financial condition and presided over by bright and intelligent officers, and the returns show a substantial increase in membership, with dues well paid. The very best of feeling exists among the members and harmony prevails. The frequent interchange of fraternal visits has induced the members to take a deeper interest in the order. The D. D. G. M. received the loyal support of all the members, and particularly of the Past Masters and Past Grand Lodge officers.

In Wellington District the true spirit of Masonry animates the brethren of the various lodges, and as a result the year has been replete with evidence of strict attention to the exclusion of unworthy material. The portals have been carefully guarded, the moral qualification of candidates strictly inquired into, discipline has been enforced and the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge observed and respected. During the visits of the D. D. G. M. he impressed on the members the necessity of carrying out the spirit of Masonic charity whenever occasion presented, and he takes pleasure in reporting that in no instance was the duty neglected. All the Masters, with one exception, are well skilled and qualified. The amount of dues in arrear is still large.

The harmony that exists throughout the Hamilton District is very gratifying, the frequent exchange of visits between lodges are productive of beneficial results, there has been considerable increase in numbers. The strong Masonic spirit which prevades the brethren made the labor of the D. D. G. M. one of love. The W. M.'s are well skilled and vie with each other in the exemplification of work. There is only one weak lodge in the district.

In Georgian District it is noticeable that although times are hard and business dull, the returns show a substantial increase in the membership, and Masonry is in a good healthy condition. All the lodges but one are in a good financial standing. The D. D. G. M. was received by the brethren in a royal Masonic manner, and his visits made pleasant and enjoyable.

The D. D. G. M. of Niagara District was unremitting in his attention to the wants of the brethren. He proved himself a very efficient officer, and spared nothing to produce favorable results in

lodges reported against year after year. While the District cannot be congratulated upon an increase in membership, still it compares favorably with the work of previous years. The W. M.'s are in every case capable and efficient.

The Toronto District can boast of a great increase in numbers. Two of the city lodges attract notice in this respect, one of them had 41 initiations and 25 affiliations, while the other had 13 initiations and 63 affiliations. The District is harmonious and prosperous to a great degree; a large measure of the success is attributable to the good work done by the D. D. G. M. A few lodges only are not all that can be desired, but matters were never in a better state generally; the work is uniform, the deep interest taken by Past Masters is very noticeable, and charity holds a prominent place in a number of the lodges. The D. D. G. M. made 66 official visits to the 40 lodges. The advisability of dividing the district will come before Grand Lodge at the present session.

From the D. D. G. M. of Ontario District we learn that, while some of the lodges have not kept pace with the general progress Masonry has made in the district, still the general character of the work done has been good, and in most of the lodges the work has been rendered intelligently, and in many instances very impressively, and there appears to be a general desire for greater perfection in the work. The lodge rooms are furnished comfortably, and in some instances luxuriously, and all the lodges are supplied with the necessary paraphernalia for the proper exemplification of the degrees. The status of the lodges with one or two exceptions is satisfactory. There has been an increase in membership, all the W. M.'s are capable men, but the amount owing for dues is much too large. The regular attendance of Past Masters at lodge meetings is very noticeable.

The Prince Edward district is prosperous, and peace, harmony and love abound among the brethren. The officers are well skilled workmen, who are perfect in the ritualistic part of the ceremonies, while the social features of Masonry which tend to make our meetings attractive are being more and more seduously cultivated. The question of arrearages of dues is the only blot on the white page. On this subject the D. D. G. M. writes: "I cannot too strongly urge the lodges to collect the dues promptly, for nothing so effectually leads to the disruption of a lodge as the accumulation of debt, which is sure to happen unless the revenue is promptly looked after; besides the services of an otherwise worthy brother is lost to the order through carelessness in collecting his dues until the arrearages amount to such a sum as a delinquent feels himself unable to to pay, and the lodge tired at length of carrying him is finally obliged to resort to suspension." We have so often given advice on this subject that we can add nothing new but will content ourselves by quoting from M. W. Bro. Drummond of Maine: "If the ordinary business methods were applied to the collection of dues very many suspensions would be saved. Pay the secretary sufficiently to enable him to present the bills in person and the lodge will make money and save members."

When the D. D. G. M. of Frontenac District assumed office one or two little differences existed, but which were subsequently settled by the parties without official intervention, so that perfect harmony now prevails. Most of the lodges have had a fair amount of work, and the manner in which the degrees are conferred and the general business conducted is on the whole entirely satisfactory. There are no

weak lodges in the district but some of them neglect to insure their property, which is unwise. The D. D. G. M. is entitled to great credit for the care and attention bestowed by him on his lodges.

Masonry is flourishing and perfect harmony prevails throughout St. Lawrence District. There have been no complaints and no trace of unkind feelings can be found. With one or two exceptions the lodges have had a fair amount of work during the year. The frequent interchange of fraternal visits between lodges appear to be productive of much good, and the D. D. G. M. encouraged such visits. The lodges are ruled over by capital Masters.

The D. D. G. M. of Ottawa District deserves the congratulations of Grand Lodge for the great measure of success which has attended his efforts. He appears to have enjoyed the confidence of all the members of the craft. He has kind words for Masters and secretaries, and particularly the latter, whose promptness and excellence of work greatly aided him. There has been an increase in membership. The condition of Masonry in the district is exceptionally good. The work is exemplified in the majority of lodges with marked ability and careful attention to details. The spirit of peace and harmony prevails to an extent not equalled in its whole history. We join with the distinguished brother in his praises to the Most High for this gratifying condition of affairs. May the district ever continue in the prosperous course on which it has entered, and may the succeeding D. D. G. M.'s take for an example the line of conduct adopted by the present occupant of the office. His plan of supplying his successor with the names and addresses of the secretaries of the various lodges is very commendable.

On the whole Masonry has held its own in the Algoma District, with very good prospects for the future. The arrearages of dues are still very great and an effort should be made to wipe out this defect.

In Nipissing District Masonry appears to be increasing in popularity. The lodges are well worked and the future prospects are bright. Sevaral lodges are the owners of the buildings in which they meet, while all are well furnished.

LODGES.

The reports show decided improvement in lodges heretofore reported against. This is a very gratifying state of affairs and reflects credit on the D. D. G. M.'s. A perusal of the reports will amply repay the reader. Our attention is particularly drawn to the following facts: St. Clair, 425, has removed from Port Lambton to Sombra Village. Some action will have to be taken with regard to Zurich, 221. It is impossible to find a suitable meeting place unless by renting from another organization. Orillia, 192, lost its lodge room through fire; their new premises, when completed, will be the best furnished in the district. Robertson, 292, has been moved from Nobleton to King and is meeting with great success; the brethren contemplate erecting a new hall. St. James, 74, has removed from Maitland to Bethel; the brethren have erected a new hall. While it is gratifying to note the improvements, we can congratulate ourselves that only a comparatively small number of weak lodges are reported. The new D. D. G. M.'s will no doubt take note of same and endeavor to present a clean slate next year. On examining the tabulated statements we find that a couple of lodges have not made the returns to Grand Lodge since December, 1894. We would advise the D. D. G. M. having them in charge to point out their danger unless a decided change is made. For the sake of improvement we would

suggest that Prince of Wales, 171, should unite with either Union or Cameron lodges, and that the efforts of the Secretary to wipe out the arrearages be encouraged. Moffatt, 399, should unite with Belmont, and Waterdown, 357, either surrender its charter or remove to Millgrove, four miles distant. Mystic, 278, should amalgamate with Stirling. Plantegenet, 186, should remove to Riceville. Some years ago a dispensation was granted for this purpose, but never taken advantage of. We have from time to time recommended remedies for the improvement of lodges, and would suggest a careful perusal of former reports on this subject; but in closing will draw attention of a few of our lodges to the good advice given by a talented brother in Texas. He states: "Lodges are very much like individuals, in that they fail to learn during their lifetime how to die in a proper manner. Though fully conscious that there are rules to live by, they do not seem to realize that there are likewise rules to die by."

DISPENSATIONS.

We must impress on the D. D. G. M.'s that their powers are distinctly laid down in the Book of Constitution; dispensations have been granted during the year that were solely within the province of the M. W. the Grand Master. We cannot account for this, but trust that each D. D. G. M. will in future, post himself regarding his duties and powers. Grand Lodge will be surprised to learn, that among other illegal acts, degrees have been conferred within the limited time, solely on dispensations from D. D. G. M.'s.

NEW LODGES.

We have to report six lodges working under dispensations, viz.: Burns, at Village of Hepworth; Harmony, at Toronto; Alexandria, in Alexandria; Tuscan, in Sarnia; Havelock, at Havelock; and Algonquin at Minden. All of which appear to be making suitable progress and are highly recommended by the respective D. D. G. M.'s.

BARTON CENTENNIAL.

We offer our congratulations to The Barton Lodge, No. 6, on the very successful celebration of its centennial. It holds a leading place among the lodges of the jurisdiction and possesses among its membership many talented and prominent citizens. May its future prosperity in every sense exceed the most sanguine expectations of its members.

OLD OFFICERS.

We are pleased to note that some of the D. D. G. M.'s make a special reference to subordinate officers who have served their respective lodges with great fidelity. Special notice herein is due to the following brethren: Bro. John Sweetman, Tyler of Dalousie, 52, Ottawa, who has given over forty years' faithful service, the M. W. the Grand Master paid special honor to him. Bro. Moag, of St. Francis, 24, Smith's Falls, has acted as secretary of his lodge for 37 years. The secretary of Albion, 109, Bro. James Cooke, has been 26 years in office, and Bro. D. Urquhart has for 24 years tyled the portals of The Belleville, 123.

CONCLUSION.

We cannot conclude this report without joining the Mother Grand Lodge in congratulating M. W. Bro. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales on completing his term of 21 years as its Grand Master. Although we occupy a proud position among the Grand Lodges on this continent, our hearts warm with love and devotion to the Grand Lodge from

whence we sprung. We claim the right to join with our brethren of the Grand Lodge of England in asking Heaven to pour down its richest gifts on its much loved Grand Master. We are proud also of our connection with an empire whose greatness exceeds that of all nations of the earth; an empire "greater and more powerful for peace and the civilization of the world than any that history has ever known."

We are a favored people, in possession of a heritage rich in resources, and whose aim should be, as true men and Masons, to make Canada

"A land of peace for friends we love,
A land of war if foes assail;
We place our trust in God above
And British hearts that never fail.
In feast or fight,
And cause of right,
Our word and deed shall aye prevail."

Canadians forever.
No foe shall dissever
Our glorious Dominion—
God bless it forever.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

E. T. MALONE,
Chairman of Sub-Committee on Condition of Masonry.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, second by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board have examined the following Notices of Motions proposed to be submitted to Grand Lodge:

No. 1. CANDIDATES' PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

That clause 215 of the Constitution be amended by the addition thereto of the following words: "A candidate's place of residence may be where his family resides, or where he is constantly employed and is in receipt of his wages or salary."

The word "residence" in the Constitution, with reference to the petitions of candidates for initiation, does not appear to be defined by the Constitution. The Board are of the opinion that there is no constitutional reason why the proposed amendment should not be adopted.

No. 2. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

That clause 210 of the Constitution be amended by adding thereto the following words: "In the event, however, of an honorary mem-

ber failing to keep up communication with his lodge, and the lodge, after due enquiry, cannot ascertain his whereabouts, then after the lapse of five years from the time of the last communication from him, it shall be permissible for the lodge to drop his name from the roll of membership and be exempt thereafter from the payment of Grand Lodge dues for such honorary member."

The Board have been informed by R. W. Bro. Rea that it is the intention to withdraw this notice.

No. 3. DIVISION OF TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 11.

That Toronto District No. 11 be divided into two districts, the division line to be Yonge street, and that the said districts be named and numbered as follows: ——— District No. —, and ——— District No. —; and that clause 9 of the Constitution be amended accordingly."

The Board are of opinion that there is no constitutional objection to the adoption of the division suggested.

No. 4. PRIVATE LODGES.

That clause 122 of the Constitution be amended by striking out all after the word "stewards" in the third line, and by substituting therefor the following: "The Committee of General Purposes of every private or subordinate lodge shall consist of all Past Masters of said lodge, who shall be ex-officio members of said Committee of General Purposes, and a corresponding number of members of the lodge, equal to the Past Masters, shall be appointed by the Master on said committee for conducting the business of the lodge. Standing committees, other than the Committee of General Purposes, and the auditors, shall be appointed by the Master. The Master shall invest or cause to be invested, upon his installation, the elected and appointed officers. As it is essential that each private or subordinate lodge shall be a type in miniature form of Grand Lodge, and that to ensure internal harmony and good government within the same, it shall not be competent for any private or subordinate lodge to adopt a method of electing its officers which does not exist and obtain in Grand Lodge."

The Board are of opinion that there is no constitutional objection to the alteration of clause 122 as suggested.

No. 5. BUSINESS TO BE DONE IN THIRD DEGREE.

That all the business of subordinate lodges within the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, with the exception of initiation and passing, shall be transacted in the third degree.

As regards this notice of motion, the Board call attention to the resolution of Grand Lodge passed in 1893, which is in the following words: "That any question once decided affecting the Constitution shall not be open for reconsideration at any time within five years after such decision, except upon an open vote at an annual communication to reconsider, such vote to be taken without debate." Assuming that this motion affects the Constitution, which the Board are of opinion is the case, the Board would draw attention to the fact that the same or a similar motion came before Grand Lodge in the year 1891 and was voted down. The Board are of opinion the five years include the whole of the five annual communications of Grand Lodge which follow the settlement any question and that this motion cannot be considered except upon an open vote to reconsider, such vote to be taken without debate.

No. 6. COMPOSITION OF GRAND LODGE AND MODE OF ELECTION.

That clauses 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 of the Constitution be repealed, that clauses 6 and 8 be renumbered, and that the following clauses be substituted :

"This Grand Lodge has supreme and exclusive jurisdiction over all matters concerning Ancient Craft Masonry within the territorial limit of the Province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada.

"This Grand Lodge shall consist of the Masters and Past Masters and Wardens, during term of office, of all warranted lodges, whose names are duly returned as subscribing members of a warranted lodge within the jurisdiction.

"The election of all elective officers of Grand Lodge shall take place at the Annual Communication, and after said election they shall be duly installed and invested and proclaimed in Ancient Form.

"No member of Grand Lodge who is not present at the Annual Communication is eligible for any of the elective offices of Grand Lodge.

"The following officers shall be elected by ballot in the manner hereinafter prescribed :

The M. W. the Grand Master.
The R. W. the Deputy Grand Master.
The R. W. the Grand Senior Warden.
The R. W. the Grand Junior Warden.
The R. W. the Grand Chaplain.
The R. W. the Grand Treasurer.
The R. W. the Grand Secretary.

and by open vote of Grand Lodge,

The Grand Tyler.

"If there be but one nomination for an office the brother so nominated shall be declared elected.

"The election of all officers shall be by simultaneous ballot in the form provided, and each officer to be chosen shall require a majority of all the votes present.

"That all candidates for elective offices shall be nominated in writing, and no candidate shall be nominated for more than one office.

"The said nominations are to be made in writing and deposited with the Grand Secretary on the first day of the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

"The election for the several offices shall be by simultaneous ballot in the form provided.

"The ballot shall consist of a single sheet of paper with the names of those nominated printed thereon. The ballot shall be marked by placing a cross directly opposite the name selected.

"Every representative on registering his name with the Board of Credentials shall receive the number of ballots to which he is entitled.

"Four ballot papers, inscribed respectively 1st Ballot, 2nd Ballot, 3rd Ballot and 4th Ballot on the upper right hand corner, shall be issued to each delegate, one to be used for each simultaneous ballot.

"In the event of a second contest for one or more of the offices, the Grand Secretary shall again read the names of those nominated for the vacant office for which there is a contest, and the ballot paper marked '2nd Ballot' shall be used. The same order shall be observed in case of a third or fourth ballot.

"The election of officers shall, as stated, commence on the morning

of the second day of the meeting of Grand Lodge, and the ballot box shall be in charge of a Committee of Scrutiny appointed for that purpose. The committee shall meet at 9 a. m. on the second day of the meeting of Grand Lodge, in a room adjacent to or adjoining Grand Lodge.

"The committee shall be provided with a copy of the register from the Committee on Credentials, showing those who are entitled to vote.

"The representative voting shall announce to the committee his name, rank, lodge and the number of votes he holds, and on his name being checked, he shall thereupon deposit in the box, in presence of the Committee, his ballot paper, so folded that the number of the ballot and the figure indicating the number of votes can be seen by the members.

"The ballot shall remain open until the Committee on Credentials shall bring its final report to Grand Lodge.

"The ballot box shall then be opened and the votes counted by the committee in charge, and when so counted the chairman of the committee shall report the result to Grand Lodge. In case of a second ballot the precedure shall be as hereinbefore provided.

"The candidates for the B. of G. P. shall be nominated as provided and the ballots shall be taken in the same manner and at the same time as for the other elective offices.

"On the first day of the Annual Communication nominations for the next place of meeting shall be made in writing and deposited with the Grand Secretary, and the list of such nominations shall be announced immediately before adjournment and posted in the committee room and in Grand Lodge before 9 o'clock on the day of voting.

"The delegate shall write his choice of place on the ballot paper in the part or section provided for that purpose.

"On the first ballot the place obtaining the majority of votes cast shall be selected, and if no choice be made the two places having the highest number of votes shall be again voted upon, and the place receiving the majority of votes be selected.

The Board are of opinion that there is no constitutional reason why the foregoing amendments should not be adopted. There does not appear, however, any provision to replace the part of clause 2 proposed to be repealed which provides for the tenure of office of the officers of Grand Lodge.

No. 7. NON-PAYMENT OF LODGE DUES.

That clause 61 of the Rules Respecting Masonic Trials in the Book of Constitution be amended by adding thereto the following subsections :

"61*a*. No arrears of dues shall be recovered by any lodge but within one year after they respectively become due. (All dues being deemed to be payable monthly in equal parts of the yearly sum.)

"61*b*. In case the lodge shall neglect or refuse to enforce payment of dues in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution relating to the non-payment of dues, their rights thereto shall cease.

"61*c*. And in case any member of a lodge has been, is now, or shall be under suspension for non-payment of dues, he shall be reinstated on payment of one year's dues at the then current rate."

No. 8. DUES TO GRAND LODGE.

"That the last paragraph of clause 254 of the Book of Constitution be amended to read as follows :

"*For* every member of each private lodge, *such lodge* shall pay towards the fund for Grand Lodge purposes fifty cents per annum."

The Board are of opinion that there is no constitutional reason why the suggestions contained in these notices (7 and 8) should not be adopted.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Constitution and Laws.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board on Constitution and Laws be received.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, when it was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be received and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE FRATERNAL DEAD.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

And now we come to speak in loving memory of those who since last we met have said their last farewells, who have clasped for the last time, on this side of the shore, the strong, firm hand of friendship. Lured by the gentle breath of rest, that came to them across the sea of distance and from the great unknown, they laid down their instruments of war, used in the battle of life, and calmly "slippit awa" to the green fields of peace, perfect peace. And so, "the flower that blooms to-day, to-morrow dies." They have done with the heat and strife of this life of change; done with its sweetest joys; done with its keenest pain; they have paid the debt of living by parting with all that earth holds dear.

Some heard the call when life seemed full of golden opportunities—full of heart and hope, when all the world was before them, raising high its perfumed lily and its fragrant rose, blinding their eyes with such sweet incense that they saw not the thorns by the way-side. When the sun rose by day and flooded their path with a golden light, that hid from view the clouds and threatening storms, joyous visions of victory filled their brain, with no thought of death or defeat; and in the glorious noon-day of life they saw no night. Ah, then how hard it is to die

> "When life, as opening buds, is sweet,
> And golden hopes the spirit greet:
> And youth prepares his joys to meet—
> Alas, how hard it is to die.

When scarce is seized some valued prize,
And duties press, and tender ties
Forbid the soul from earth to rise—
How awful then it is to die."

And we, who watch them go out untimely and alone, would fain weary heaven with our prayers to spare them yet a little before they go hence and be no more seen. But when the energy of youth is spent, when the spirit is bruised, if not broken; when the cherished ambitions of their life have brought forth no fruit, their best hopes crushed and their favorite aims foiled—when they are jostled aside by the younger and stronger and made to know there is no place for the old, no room for the weak—

"When one by one love ties are torn,
And friend from friend is snatched forlorn,
And man is left alone to mourn—
Ah! then how easy 'tis to die.
When trembling limbs refuse their weight,
And films, slow gathering, dim the sight,
And clouds obscure the mental light—
'Tis nature's precious boon to die."

Then comes death, not as the king of terrors, but as the deliverer, and lifts from the brow the thorny crown of life and lays thereon a wreath of immortelles of never-dying remembrance.

We miss to-day the faces of our well-loved brethren, men whose noble hearts could harbor no thought of wrong, whose souls could do no act that was base, whose "deeds were witnesses of their worth, for they had that within called conscience"; men who were not slow to answer to the call of duty, and who "by the strength of their arm in the hour of need, and the gold of their words in the time of uncertainty" have kept their friends near their hearts.

Hushed is the voice that was ever raised in the cause of right; closed are the eyes that were quick to see the wants of a brother; still are the hearts that went out in pity to every woe. They have bathed in a sea of forgetfulness, and gone out with the tide, to a far country where there is no sorrow, no mourning and, better than all, no parting. It has been said by a recent writer that, "once dead and buried, one can safely be made glorious, as there is no fear to spoil the dead by flattery." But we say to you there is something better than that. While they are with us is the accepted time to remember their virtues and forget their faults. Better to put a flower in the toil-hardened hand while here than load the sod and casket with wreaths and blossoms when they are gone; better to bring a smile to the face and joy to the heart while the eyes are yet bright with the light of reason and love, and the heart yet warm with faith in mankind, than to shower tears, idle tears, and raise costly monuments when the eyes see not and the lips give no signs thereof.

Yes, it is while we are here in this sin-hardened and weary world that we need the few flowers we can pluck from the thorny path of life; to gather them in the secret storehouses of our souls; to be a living joy in our youth and a sweet memory in our old age. So to-day we hold our brethren in our hearts and offer our spray of cypress to the memory of our honored dead.

London District, No. 3, loses one of its brightest Masons in the person of V. W. Bro. Ed. Burke. The D. D. G. M. of the district thus alludes to the event in speaking of St. George's Lodge, No. 42: "This lodge mourns the loss of a distinguished brother, a just and

upright man, in the highest sense of the word a Freemason, V. W. Bro. Ed. Burke, a brother whose influence was not confined to his own lodge, and whose manly bearing will long live in the memory of all who had the good fortune to know him."

St. Clair District, No. 2, is bereft of the wise counsels and ripe wisdom of V. W. Bro. Walter Miller, who was one of the most energetic workers of Alexandra Lodge. He was an enthusiastic Mason and his loss is deeply deplored by the brethren who knew him best.

The death at Sault Ste. Marie of V. W. Bro. Hugh Kerr removes from the Craft a brother who took a deep interest in Masonry. He was a splendid ritualist, and took great pride in conferring the several degrees. He was connected with Wilson District, No. 6, for a number of years prior to his decease.

Wellington District, No. 7, mourns the loss of V. W. Bro. Nokes, who by his life and conduct exemplified the principles of Freemasonry.

Toronto District, No. 11, is materially weakened by the death of R. W. Bro. T. F. Blackwood, of Ashlar Lodge. He was the founder of that lodge and was a most faithful member. He served the district as D. D. G. M., and by his ripe wisdom and rare tact and judgment rendered invaluable service to the cause of Masonry which he loved.

V. W. Bro. C. W. Bunting was also taken from this district. On account of his large business interests he was well known throughout Canada, and his untimely demise is a distinct loss to the Craft. In the early days of this Grand Lodge he took an active part in its affairs.

Ontario District, No. 12, loses a faithful Masonic worker in the person of R. W. Bro. Francis Rae, M. D., P. D. D. G. M., who died on the 8th May last, after an illness of only a few hours. He was acknowledged by all to be the most popular and most respected citizen in the locality, and his loss will be much felt.

Frontenac District, No. 14, laments the sudden death of V. W. Bro. Arnold P. Booth, who for many years was Secretary of Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa, and did a great deal to further the interests of the Craft in his neighborhood.

The death of V. W. Bro. Thomas Perkins, at Windsor, a few weeks ago, takes away from us another Masonic veteran. Bro. Perkins was a charter member of Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor, assisted at the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and was its first Grand Junior Deacon. Bro. Perkins was an active member of his lodge, took great interest in its work, and attended its meetings regularly up to within about a year of his death.

These, my brethren, are a few of those who since the last communication have gone hence; to the families and friends of those bereaved we offer our heartfelt sympathy and recommend that their names be inscribed on the memoriel pages of the proceedings of onr annual communication.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEO. C. DAVIS,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Fraternal Dead.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by R. W. Bro. G. C. Davis, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on the Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

DEFINITION OF RESIDENCE.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. D. Spry, seconded by M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, and

Resolved,—That the following be added to clause 215 of the Book of Constitution, namely, "The place where a candidate is constantly employed and is in receipt of his wages or salary, though not strictly speaking his place of residence, may be treated by him as such for the purposes of this and the next preceding clause."

COMMITTEES IN PRIVATE LODGES.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert, seconded by W. Bro. S. Beaumont,

That clause 122 of the Constitution be amended by striking out all after the word "stewards" in the third line, and by substituting therefor the following: "The Committee of General Purposes of every private or subordinate lodge shall consist of all Past Masters of said lodge, who shall be ex-officio members of said Committee of General Purposes, and a corresponding number of members of the lodge, equal to the Past Masters, shall be appointed by the Master on said committee for conducting the business of the lodge. Standing committees, other than the Committee of General Purposes, and the auditors, shall be appointed by the Master. The Master shall invest or cause to be invested, upon his installation, the elected and appointed officers. As it is essential that each private or subordinate lodge shall be a type in miniature form of Grand Lodge, and that to ensure internal harmony and good government within the same, it shall not be competent for any private or subordinate lodge to adopt a method of electing its officers which does not exist or obtain in Grand Lodge."

The resolution was put to Grand Lodge and declared *lost*.

CONSTITUTION OF GRAND LODGE AND MODE OF ELECTION.

It was moved by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson,

That resolution No. 6 on the notice paper (see page 225) be adopted.

After discussion the foregoing resolution was withdrawn, and it was moved by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by R. W. Bro. John S. Dewar, and

Resolved,—That in the opinion of Grand Lodge the method of nomination for office, form of ballot, and conducting the ballot, should be altered, and that it be referred to a committee consisting of M. W. Bros. J. M. Gibson, Hugh Murray and J. Ross Robertson, and W. Bros. Dowd and Barwick, to report at the next annual communication what changes it is advisable to make in the Constitution in that regard.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. Parker Thomas, seconded by R. W. Bro. D. F. MacWatt,

That clause 61 of the Rules Respecting Masonic Trials in the Book of Constitution be amended by adding thereto the following subsections:

"61*a*. No arrears of dues shall be recovered by any lodge but within one year after they respectively become due. (All dues being deemed to be payable monthly in equal parts of the yearly sum.)

"61*b*. In case the lodge shall neglect or refuse to enforce payment of dues in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution relating to the non-payment of dues, their rights thereto shall cease.

"61*c*. And in case any member of a lodge has been, is now, or shall be under suspension for non-payment of dues, he shall be reinstated on payment of one year's dues at the then current rate."

The resolution was put to Grand Lodge and declared *lost*.

DUES TO GRAND LODGE.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. Parker Thomas, seconded by R. W. Bro. George Tait, and

Resolved,—That the last paragraph of clause 254 of the Book of Constitution be amended to read as follows: "For every member of each private lodge, such lodge shall pay towards the fund for Grand Lodge purposes fifty cents per annum."

MASONIC ASYLUM FUND.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, on behalf of the Committee, and in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last annual communication, presented and read the following

REPORT:

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

At the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge held at the City of Toronto, a resolution was passed recommending that a committee of five be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, whose duty it should be during the interval between that and the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, to enquire into the question of establishing an Asylum as contemplated when an Asylum fund was created, and to report upon the best means of carrying this object into effect.

The M. W. the Grand Master subsequently appointed as the committee R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, chairman, M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, R. W. Bros. Wm. Gibson, and R. B. Hungerford and W. Bro. Walter Barwick.

This committee assumed the duties imposed by the resolution, but are unable as yet to report what would be the best means of carrying into effect the lofty objects of those who were mainly instrumental in establishing the Asylum fund. The committee recommend that it be re-appointed, and that power be given to it to add to its members, and that it be directed to report at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

J. E. HARDING,
Chairman.

It was moved by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by M. W. Bro. D. Spry, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on the Masonic Asy-Fund be received, and (subsequently) adopted.

CALLED OFF.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Thursday, 16th July at 10 o'clock, forenoon.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, 16th July, A. D. 1896.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 10.30 a. m.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C., on the Throne.

GRAND OFFICERS, MEMBERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives of this Grand Lodge beg to report that there are 354 warranted lodges on the Grand Register; 167 are represented by their duly qualified officers; 102 are represented by proxy; 10 are not represented by proxy, but have Past Masters present, and 75 are unrepresented in any way. There are 537 names registered, having a total vote of 1,183.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

R. B. HUNGERFORD,
WILLIAM ROAF,
HENRY PRINGLE,
} *Committee.*

It was moved by R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the Supplementary Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT:

The Board have in pursuance of the resolution of Grand Lodge considered the matters contained in the address of the M. W. the Grand Master, and have the honor to present the following report:

The Board fully concur in the views of the M. W. the Grand Master with respect to the beneficial effect of Grand Lodge meetings in bringing together year by year the leading brethren in the craft from all parts of the jurisdiction, and thus forming and cementing friendships which have life-long endurance, and tend to produce the most happy results. That these advantages are fully understood and appreciated by the brethren is evidenced by their faithful attendance at the annual communications.

The Board concur in the remarks of the Grand Master with respect to proposed amendments to our Constitution. While there should be no hesitation in remedying a defect or grievance it should be remembered that our Constitution now stands as the work of many years of careful thought and consideration, and therefore should not be lightly altered.

The Board are much pleased to observe the indication of progress evidenced by the M. W. the Grand Master in the granting of dispensations for new lodges, and the preparation and dedication of lodge-rooms.

One of the most convincing proofs of the prosperity of Grand Lodge is the excess of income over expenditure. Financial prosperity is a fairly sure proof of general soundness.

The Board concurs in the views of the M. W. the Grand Master on the subject of the allowance to the G. M., and would recommend a return to the practice of making an annual allowance of $500 to cover the expenses incidental to the discharge of the duties of that high office. They further recommend that this allowance should be made to the G. M. for the past year.

The Board learn with satisfaction the steps which have been taken by the M. W. the Grand Master with respect to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, and recommend that the next Grand Master be authorized to deal as he may think proper with the question of the recognition of the union of these brethren, who have given material assistance in the promotion of the settlement arrived at.

The Board join with the M. W. the Grand Master in his congratulations to Grand Lodge on the progress of Masonry within the jurisdiction.

The Board take this opportunity of expressing its high appreciation of the success of the M. W. the Grand Master during his term of office, and assure him of the hearty good will of the members of Grand Lodge and the craft generally throughout the jurisdiction.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

RICHARD T. WALKEM,

Chairman of the Sub-Committee on the Grand Master's Address.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board of General Purposes on the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, and upon their report, the following were

declared duly elected as office-bearers for the ensuing term, namely:

M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P....Beamsville .Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone .....Toronto ....Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Bro. Arthur McGinnis ....Belleville ...Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. Bro. A. B. Greer.....London ....Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. Bro. Rev. W. T. Wilkins..Trenton ....Grand Chaplain.
M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray.....Hamilton...Grand Treasurer.
R. W. Bro. John Hetherington...Toronto ....Grand Registrar.
R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason..... Hamilton...Grand Secretary.
And by open vote of Grand Lodge
Bro. T. H. Sears .....Brantford ..Grand Tyler.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Ingersoll.
R. W. Bro. L. Secord, Brantford.
B. W. Bro D F. MacWatt, Barrie.
R. W. Bro. George Inglis, Owen Sound.
R. W. Bro. Benjamin Allen, Toronto.

Subsequently, the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments on the Board for the ensuing term, namely:

R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Ottawa.
R. W. Rro. John S. Dewar, London.
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Kincardine.
R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford, London.
R. W. Bro. J. W. Murton, Hamilton.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of lodges as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts, and were approved by the W. M. the Grand Master, viz.:

R. W. Bro. W. R. Hickey.....	Bothwell	Erie	Dis. No.	1
R. W. Bro. B. F. George.....	Point Edward.	St. Clair	"	2
R. W. Bro. W. G. McMillen....	London.....	London	"	3
R. W. Bro. John W. Shaw, M.D.	Clinton.....	South Huron	"	4
R. W. Bro. J. S. Tennant, M.D.	Lucknow.....	North Huron	"	5
R. W. Bro. T. Allshire	Ratho.....	Wilson	"	6
R. W. Bro. A. J. Oliver.....	Galt	Wellington	"	7
R. W. Bro. J. E. Liddell	Brantford	Hamilton	"	8
R. W. Bro. Robt McKnight	Owen Sound..	Georgian	"	9
R. W. Bro. S. Amsden.....	Dunnville	Niagara	"	10
R. W. Bro. Aubrey White.....	Toronto	Toronto	"	11
R. W. Bro. A. M. Ross	Whitby	Ontario	"	12
R. W. Bro. Henry Pringle	Belleville.....	Prince Edw'd	"	13
R. W. Bro. G. A. Aylesworth .	Newburg	Frontenac	"	14
R. W. Bro. D. A. Macdonell....	Iroquois.....	St. Lawrence	"	15
R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow	Ottawa.....	Ottawa	"	16
R. W. Bro. R. A. Mather	Keewatin.....	Algoma	"	17
R. W. Bro. J. H. Knifton.....	Parry Sound .	Nipissing	"	18

NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

On motion it was resolved that the next Annual Communication be held at the City of Brantford.

THANKS TO THE OFFICERS OF THE 15TH BATTALION.

It was moved by W. Bro. Macwatt, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. T. Toner, and

Resolved,—That the thanks of Grand Lodge be tendered to Lieut.-Col. Ponton, and the officers of the 15th Battalion, Hastings, for their courtesy in placing at the disposal of Grand Lodge the Armory and officers' quarters, as well as for the generous hospitality extended by Lieut.-Col. Ponton and his officers to the officers and members of Grand Lodge during the session.

REPRINT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. F. Cook, seconded by W. Bro. W. C. Harris,

That the Board of General Purposes be instructed to present to Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication an estimate of the cost of printing 500 copies of the annual report of Grand Lodge for such years as said reports may be out of print.

The resolution was put to Grand Lodge and declared *lost*.

THE BARTON LODGE JEWEL.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, seconded by M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, and

Resolved,—That the members of The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, be permitted to wear in lodge as a Masonic jewel a medal designed and made for that lodge in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the lodge.

THANKS TO BELLEVILLE BRETHREN.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. W. Bro. F. F. Manley, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered, to the Committee of Management of the Belleville Lodges for the satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present Annual Communication.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, assisted by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz.:

V. W. Bro. W. H. Adams, Belleville, Grand Senior Deacon.
" C. A. Kingston, London, Grand Junior Deacon.
" John Hall, Toronto, Grand Superintendent of Works.
" Geo. Samis, Sarnia, Grand Director of Ceremonies.
" G. H. Cooper, Grand Valley, Assistant Grand Secretary.
" Wm. Clarke, York, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
" P. A. Craig, Windsor, Grand Sword Bearer.
" G. S. May, Ottawa, Grand Organist.
" John Morrison, Woodstock, Assistant Grand Organist.
" Wm. Bishop, Owen Sound, Grand Pursuivant.
" David Spence, Peterboro, Grand Steward.
" F. W. Armstrong, Bath, Grand Steward.
" Peter Toll, London East, Grand Steward.
" W. H Hurrell, Stratford, Grand Steward.
" Jas. McD. Fleming, Listowel, Grand Steward.
" Jas. Stewart, Ancaster, Grand Steward.
" A. J. Halloway, Clinton, Grand Steward.
" J. C. Stewart, Pembroke, Grand Steward.
" J. R. Dunn, Toronto, Grand Steward.
" Jas. A. Macpherson, Kincardine, Grand Steward.
" A. Carmichael, Rat Portage, Grand Steward.
" Richard Mills, Bracebridge, Grand Steward.
" W. J. McAllister, Hamilton, Grand Standard Bearer.
" W. P. Chamberlain, Morrisburg, Grand Standard Bearer.

TESTIMONIAL TO W. M. W. BRO. W. R. WHITE.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved,—That the Grand Master be requested to appoint a Committee to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Past Grand Master.

Whereupon the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Convener, and M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray and J. Ross Robertson.

THE GRAND LODGE CLOSED.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed at 3 30 o'clock p. m., in *ample form*.

ATTEST:

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF CANADA

AUDI VIDE TACE

J. J. Mason

Grand Secretary.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT JUNE 24TH, 1896, AND

Lodges marked (a) hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
2	Niagara	Niagara	W. on or b.f.m	Sam'l Campbell.	J. H. Burns
3	a The An. St. John's	Kingston	1st Thursday	W. T. Minnes	John Sutherland
5	a Sussex	Brockville	3rd Monday	Jonathan Green	Geo. K. Dewey
6	Barton	Hamilton	2d Monday	A. T. Freed	S. G. Moore
7	Union	Grimsby	Th. on or b.f.m	W. D. Forbes	W. H. Sparling
9	a Union	Napanee	F. on or b.f.m	J. W. Robinson	R. L. Henry
10	a Norfolk	Simcoe	Tu. on or b.f.m	T. R. Atkinson	Wm. P. Kelly
11	a Moira	Belleville	W. on or b.f.m	Isaac O. Frost	Hope McGinnis
14	a True Britons	Perth	1st Monday	Wm. T. Walker	W. A. Moore
15	St. George's	St. Cathar'n's	Tu. on or b.f.m	J. Hetherington	A. N. Lindsay
16	a St. Andrew's	Toronto	2nd Tuesday	W. J. Dowd	Henry T. Smith
17	St. John's	Cobourg	Tu. on or b.f.m	Fred. Metcalfe	John W. Bickle
18	a Prince Edward	Picton	Th. on or b.f.m	A. C. Bowerman	J. H. Murney
20	a St. Johns	London	2nd Tuesday	D. W. Blackwell	M. D. Dawson
21 a	a St. John's	Vanklek Hill	Tu. on or b.f.m	S. N. Morrison	A. R. Metcalfe
22	a King Solomon's	Toronto	2d Thursday	T. D. D. Lloyd	W. W. Vickers
23	Richmond	Richm'd Hill	M. on or b.f.m	P. G. Savage	H. A. Nicholl
24	a St Francis	Smith's Falls	F. on or b.f.m	Wm. Hyndman	Stewart Moag
25	a Ionic	Toronto	1st Tuesday	A. B. Aylesworth	F. W. Harcourt
26	a Ontario	Port Hope	3rd Thursday	J. A. Woodhouse	W. J. Robertson
27	a Strict Observance	Hamilton	3rd Friday	T. M. Davis	W. C. Morton
28	a Mount Zion	Kemptville	W. b.f.m	S. H. Guest	W. H. Bottom
29	a United	Brighton	Th. on or b.f.m	C. A. Lapp	T. P. Keeler
30	a Composite	Whitby	1st Thursday	John H. Gale	Robert Willis
31	a Jerusalem	Bowmanv'lle	W. on or b.f.m	Thos. Fitzgerald	Jos. Pattinson
32	a Amity	Dunnville	W. on or b.f.m	G. T. Blackwell	G. D. Robertson
33	a Maitland	Goderich	2nd Tuesday	A. S. Crystall	W. P. Rhynas
34	a Thistle	Amherstb'rg	Tu. on or b.f.m	Thos. J. Salmoni	J. A. Patten
35	St John's	Cayuga	Thurs. a.f.m.	Wm. M. Connor	C. C. Gibson
37	a King Hiram	Ingersoll	1st Friday	B. Patterson	H. Rowland
38	a Trent	Trenton	Tuesday b.f.m	W. O. Lott	C. K. Howell
39	a Mount Zion	Brooklin	Tu. on or b.f.m	W. G. Armour	F. Scott
40	a St. John's	Hamilton	3rd Thursday	Jas. Chisholm	W. J. McAllister
41	a St George's	Kingsville	Th. on or b.f.m	S. L. McKay	Geo. Rumble
42	a St. George's	London	1st Wednesday	John Blanch	A. Ellis
43	King Solomon's	Woodstock	1st Tuesday	Clifford Kemp	Geo. J. Fraser
44	a St. Thomas	St. Thomas	1st Thursday	Geo. Streeks	L. Slater
45	Brant	Brantford	2nd Tuesday	H. D. Curtis	John E. Taylor
46	a Wellington	Chatham	1st Monday	Geo. B. Crumb	Alex. Gregory
47	a Great Western	Windsor	Th. on or b.f.m	Andrew J. Little	Geo. K. Prouse
48	a Madoc	Madoc	Tu. on or b.f.m	A. H. Watson	R. T. Gray
50	a Consecon	Consecon	F. on or b.f.m	David H. Rowe	W. R. McKibbon
52	Dalhousie	Ottawa	1st Tuesday	Miles Berkett	C. S. Scott
54	a Vaughan	Maple	Tu. on or b.f.m	E. Sisley, M. D.	Chas. H. Keffer
55	a Merrickville	Merrickville	Tu. on or b.f.m	G. B. Magee	Thos. Colbert
56	a Victoria	Sarnia	Tu. on or b.f.m	S. Johnson	W. F. B. Colter
57	a Harmony	Binbrook	W. on or b.f.m	S. C. Wright	J. F. Senn
58	a Doric	Ottawa	1st Friday	W. H. Martin	J. H. May
51	a Acacia	Hamilton	2nd Friday	W. H. Elliott	S. A. Morgan
62	a St. Andrew's	Caledon'a	W. on or b.f.m	Hugh C. Clark	W. Galer
63	a St. John s	Carleton Place	W. on or b.f.m	E. G. P. Pickup	J. Rushworth
64	a Kilwinning	London	3rd Thursday	W.F.W Findlater	John Overell
65	a Rehoboam	Toronto	1st Thursday	Fred. W. Unitt	A. Forrester
66	a Durham	Newcastle	Tu. on or b.f.m	Jas. Coulson	E. Simmons
68	a St. John's	Ingersoll	3rd Friday	Thos. Dougan	Wm. Ewart
69	Stirling	Stirling	Th. after f.m.	H. J. Micklejohn	Geo. Bailey
62	Alma	Galt	Last Thursd'y	J. S. Wardlaw	Andrew J. Oliver
73	a St. James	St. Mary's	1st Monday	Wm. Webster	R. J. McConnell
74	a St. James	Bethel	M. nearest f.m	Wm. J. Bissell	Syrenius Cole
75	St. John's	Toronto	1st Monday	Jos. Tomlinson	M. Laverty
76	a Oxford	Woodstock	2d Wednesday	F. J. Ure	Robt. Anderson
77	a Faithful Brethr'n	Lindsay	1st Friday	M. L. Nutting	R. G. Cornell
78	a King Hiram	Tilsonburg	W. on or b.f.m	A. E. Raynes	R. Clarke
79	a Simcoe	Bradford	F. on or b.f.m	Alex. E. Boddy	Alvin Orton
81	a St. John's	Mt. Brydges.	Tu on or b.f.m	J. C. McNeill	Thos. C. V
82	St. John's	Paris	Tu. on or b.f.m	F. Hammond	W. Barrowcou

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.

the Evangelist; all others on that St. John the Baptist.

No. of Lodge.	Initiated	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Wd'n	Deaths.	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total M'mb'ss	Last Ret'n's.	Ledger. Dr.Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal.	Paid Grand Lodge.
2	3	3	4	1	....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	June '96	.....	.....	32 25
3	8	9	17	3	6	5	6	.....	.....	.....	143	"	.....	.....	102 75
5	9	9	7	4	4	2	4	.....	.....	.....	146	"	.....	.....	108 00
6	14	15	14	6	1	3	8	.....	.....	1	311	"	4 00	.....	183 00
7	5	4	4	1	....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	55	"	.....	.....	29 75
9	3	4	3	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	81	"	.....	.....	48 75
10	8	5	6	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	"	27 50	.....	44 75
11	13	11	7	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	159	"	.....	.....	90 50
14	3	4	5	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	85	"	.....	.....	53 00
15	3	2	1	.....	1	4	1	.....	.....	2	80	"	.....	.....	147 50
16	13	13	7	7	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	212	"	.....	.....	178 75
17	7	9	11	3	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	"	.....	.....	60 50
18	8	9	8	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	165	"	.....	.....	108 00
20	2	3	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	95	Dec. '95	3 00	.....	87 00
21a	6	6	6	1	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	1	45	June '96	50	.....	52 00
22	9	6	6	3	6	1	.....	.....	.....	1	173	"	51 00	.....	94 75
23	3	3	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	"	.....	.....	11 50
24	3	2	1	4	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	89	"	.....	.....	53 00
25	4	5	13	.....	5	1	1	.....	.....	.....	198	"	.....	.....	114 25
26	4	5	3	1	1	1	7	.....	.....	.....	76	"	.....	.....	68 50
27	8	8	8	4	4	2	5	.....	.....	1	250	"	.....	.....	81 00
28	1	2	2	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	25	Dec. '95	.....	.....	39 25
29	6	5	4	.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	1	51	June '96	.....	.....	5 00
30	1	1	1	.....	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	68	"	.....	.....	40 00
31	2	1	1	1	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	39	"	.....	4 00	22 00
32	4	10	11	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	77	"	18 00	.....	96 25
33	7	7	5	3	3	3	.....	.....	.....	1	96	"	.....	2 00	30 00
34	1	1	1	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	38	"	.....	.....	20 00
35	8	9	8	2	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	56	"	.....	6 00	36 00
37	2	2	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	"	.....	.....	38 75
38	4	4	4	1	1	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	65	"	.....	.....	57 50
39	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	Dec. '95	7 00	.....	
40	28	26	21	6	3	4	9	.....	.....	2	347	June '96	.....	.....	210 75
41	4	6	4	.....	4	1	15	.....	.....	2	69	"	.....	.....	57 25
42	3	3	3	1	.....	2	4	.....	.....	.....	103	Dec. '95	.....	.....	92 25
43	4	3	2	2	3	1	3	.....	.....	.....	90	June '96	.....	2 00	49 50
44	5	6	5	7	3	1	7	.....	.....	2	133	"	.....	.....	90 00
45	5	5	5	2	2	2	12	.....	.....	.....	103	"	.....	.....	66 75
46	5	5	10	4	5	.....	11	.....	.....	1	114	Dec. '95	.....	.....	86 50
47	14	19	17	2	.....	2	.....	1	.....	2	134	June '96	.....	7 00	107 75
48	2	1	.....	.....	4	3	9	.....	.....	.....	81	Dec '95	.....	6 00	41 50
50	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	"	18 00	.....	32 25
52	3	4	5	1	2	3	8	.....	.....	.....	108	June '96	.....	3 00	87 50
54	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	40	"	.....	.....	21 00
55	5	5	5	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	"	.....	.....	35 50
56	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	57	Dec. '95	.....	.....	33 50
57	1	2	2	.....	2	1	10	.....	.....	1	48	June '96	.....	.....	55 75
58	8	9	8	.....	1	2	8	.....	.....	.....	96	"	.....	.....	83 75
61	18	14	12	3	3	2	14	.....	.....	1	231	"	.....	.....	79 75
62	10	9	7	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	40	"	.....	.....	24 00
63	10	11	7	.....	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	Dec. '95	.....	.....	77 50
64	5	2	1	5	1	1	6	.....	.....	.....	147	"	81 00	.....	86 00
65	7	6	6	5	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	211	June '96	.....	4 00	102 00
66	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	June '95	.....	.....	25 25
68	7	2	2	1	1	2	.....	.....	.....	2	66	June '96	50	.....	41 25
69	6	5	3	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	"	.....	.....	47 50
72	4	4	2	5	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	94	"	.....	.....	76 75
73	4	4	4	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	70	"	.....	.....	58 00
74	2	2	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	Dec. '95	13 50	.....	32 50
75	20	21	18	.....	3	3	6	.....	.....	.....	185	June '96	.....	2 00	120 75
76	3	2	5	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	Dec. '95	.....	.....	60 00
77	5	2	1	3	3	1	.....	.....	.....	2	90	June '96	.....	.....	54 25
78	9	7	8	1	.....	2	1	.....	.....	1	107	Dec. '95	.....	.....	84 50
79	3	4	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	June '96	7 00	.....	26 00
81	.....	2	2	.....	1	1	7	.....	.....	1	54	"	.....	4 00	34 25
82	.....	1	2	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	49	"	.....	.....	32 50

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1896, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
83	*Beaver	Strathroy	F. on or a.f.m	Jas. F. Taylor	R. F. Richardson
84	*Clinton	Clinton	F. after f. m.	J. A. Holloway	T. Rumball
85	*Rising Sun	Athens	Th.on or b.f.m	H. A. Stewart	Jas. Ross
86	*Wilson	Toronto	3rd Tuesday	Geo. Duthie	John J. Gee, M.D
87	Markham Union	Markham	F. on or b.f.m	John Turner	R. A. Mason
88	St. George's	Owen Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. H. Sinclair	John Rutherford
90	*Manito	Collingwood	W. on or a.f.m	John Wilson	Hugh A. Currie
91	*Colborne	Colborne	F. on or b.f.m	H. Brown	Geo. Keyes
92	*Cataraqui	Kingston	2d Wednesd'y	Wm. Lowe	Robt. Hendry, Jr
93	*Northern Light	Kincardine	1st Wednesd'y	F. N. Collins	R. D. Hall
94	*St. Mark's	Port Stanley	2d Tuesday	H. Denning	W. M. Berry
96	*Corinthian	Barrie	1st Thursdry.	D. H. MacLaren.	W. D. MacLaren
97	*Sharon	Sharon	Tu.on or b.f.m	A. Willson	B. F. Pearson
98	True Blue	Albion	F. on or b.f.m	Robert M. White	Robt. Roberts
99	*Tuscan	Newmarket	2d Wednesd'y	D. H. B. Phillips	W. D. Lawrie
100	Valley	Dundas	M. on or b.f.m	W. B. Call	F. A. Latshaw
101	*Corinthian	Peterboro'	W.on or b.f.m	Wm. F. Johnson.	F. D. Mackay
103	*Maple Leaf	S.Catharines	Last Thursd'y	Frank D. Burgar	John S. Wood
104	St. John's	Norwich	W. on or a.f.m	Alfred Kenning	I. L. Farrington
105	*St. Mark's	N. Falls S'th.	Tu.on or b.f.m	Jas. Willox	F. P. Sumner
106	*Burford	Burford	W. on or b.f.m	Samuel Parkhill	R. Bulkwill
107	St. Paul's	Lambeth	W. on or b.f.m	David Irwin	Hy. Poole
108	Blenheim	Princeton	W. on or b.f.m	Aden Curry	J. E. Richardson
109	*Albion	Har'owsmith	F. on or b.f.m	Arch Forsyth	James Cooke
110	*Central	Prescott	1st Tuesday	F. A. Munn	H. H. Wells
113	*Wilson	Waterford	W. on or b.f.m	James Ross	D. S. Bell
114	*Hope	Port Hope	1st Thursday	W. G. Coulter	T. H. Bell
115	*Ivy	Beamsville	Tu on or b.f.m	T. A. Simpson	John Gibson
116	*Cassia	Thedford	M. on or b.f.m	John Morrison	T. K. Poole
118	Union	Schomberg	M. on or b f.m	S. Featherland	W. J. Brereton
119	*Maple Leaf	Bath	M. before f. m	H. S. Northmore	Max. Robinson
120	Warren	Fingal	Tu.on or b.f.m	Fred k Guest	Frank R. Else
121	*Doric	Brantford	3d Tuesday	W. D. Jones	W. E. Weeks
122	*Renfrew	Renfrew	1st Monday	W. A. McKay	M. McKinnon
123	*The Belleville	Belleville	1st Thursday.	J. E. Walmsley	W. H. Adams
125	*Cornwall	Cornwall	1st Tuesday	F. Bissett	John Ridley
126	*Golden Rule	Cam'bellford	Fr.on or b.f.m	Geo. T. Dickson	A. E. Jewett
127	*Franck	Frankford	M. before f. m	J. A. Consaul	C. M. Rowe
128	*Pembroke	Pembroke	1st Thursday.	J. C. Stewart	J. H. Reeves
129	The Rising Sun	Aurora	1st Friday	D. A. Radcliffe	W. J. Stevenson
131	*St. Lawrence	Southam'ton	Tu.on or a.f.m	Angus McAulay	F. H. Lee
133	*Lebanon Forest	Exeter	M. or or b. f. m	John J. Knight	M. Eacrett
135	*St. Clair	Milton	Th.on or b.f.m	John Dearing	R. Coats
136	Richardson	Stouffville	W. on or b.f.m	W. B. Button	John Monkhouse
137	*Pythagoras	Meaford	F. nearest f.m	J. D. Hamill	J. Patterson
139	Lebanon	Oshawa	2nd Tuesday	Alex. R. McLean	Jas. McCaw
140	*Malahide	Aylmer	W. on or b.f.m	G. W. Youell	C. T. Burdick
141	*Tudor	Mitchell	Tu.on or b.f.m	Alex. Cameron	H. S. Anderson
142	*Excelsior	Morrisburg	F. on or b.f.m	Geo. F. Bradfield	G. H. S. Kennedy
143	*Friendly Brothers	Iroquois	Wednes' b.f.m	J. H. Currie	Jas. W. Tindale
144	*Tecumseh	Stratford	3rd Friday	J. R. Stuart	A. E. Neil
145	*J. B. Hall	Millbroak	2d Thursday	Henry A. Turner	H. W. Johnson
146	*Prinae of Wales	Newburgh	Wednes' b.f.m	Thos. M. York	G. A. Aylesworth
147	*Mississippi	Almonte	1st Friday	Louis Coulter	Robt. Pollock
148	*Civil Service	Ottawa	2d Tuesday	A. W. Harris	W. L. Blair
149	*Erie	Port Dover	M. on or b.f.m	A. C. Mathews	J. Varey
151	*The Grand River	Berlin	2d Tuesday	E. P. Cornell	A. Oelschlager
153	*Burns	Wyoming	Th.on or b.f.m	R. Coughlan	J. M. Wilson
154	*Irving	Lucan	Th.on or b.f.m	C. W. Mulloy	M. Thompson
155	*Peterboro'	Peterboro'	1st Friday	Alex. Gibson	R. W. McFadden
156	*York	N. Toronto	3rd Friday	Walter Muston	W. E. Hofland
157	Simpson	Newboro'	Tu.on or b.f.m	Levi S. Lewis	Josh H. Butler
158	*Alexandra	Oil Springs	Th.on or a.f.m	A. P. Chalmers	W. Miller
159	*Goodwood	Richmond	W. on or b.f.m	R. H. Grant	John Kemp
161	*Percy	Warkworth	Wednes' b.f.m	J. A. Denike	W. J. Baker
162	Forest	Wroxeter	M. on or b.f.m	J. A. Barnard	T. F. Miller

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.—*Continued.*

No. of Lodge.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Withdrawn.	Deaths	S.N. P.D.	S.U. M.C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total Mmbs	Last Returns	Ledger. Dr. Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal.	Paid Grand Lodge.
83	1	3	1	1	4	2	3	.....	.....	.....	92	Dec. '95	.....	.....	56 25
84	2	2	4	1	1	.....	8	.....	.....	1	63	June'96	.....	.....	41 00
85	3	4	7	.....	3	1	2	.....	.....	.....	63	"	.....	.....	58 00
86	8	4	6	2	2	.....	7	.....	.....	2	144	"	86 00	.....	17 00
87	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	29 00
88	6	5	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	"	.....	.....	46 75
90	3	4	3	2	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	106	"	.....	.....	47 75
91	5	5	6	.....	2	1	2	.....	.....	1	80	"	.....	.....	51 25
92	4	4	3	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	114	"	30 25	.....	31 00
93	2	.....	.....	1	2	1	4	.....	.....	.....	92	"	.....	.....	56 00
94	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	"	37 00	.....	25 00
96	4	4	5	3	4	.....	2	.....	1	.....	116	"	.....	4 50	82 50
97	1	1	1	3	3	1	5	.....	.....	2	44	"	31 50	.....	40 50
98	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	June'95	.....	.....	34 00
99	2	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	June'96	28 00	.....	14 25
100	4	4	5	.....	4	1	4	.....	.....	.....	67	"	.....	.....	48 75
101	2	2	2	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	Dec. '95	.....	.....	41 00
103	5	5	5	1	1	2	7	.....	.....	.....	99	June'96	.....	.....	70 75
104	3	3	1	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	82	"	.....	.....	49 50
105	4	4	3	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	61	"	.....	2 00	34 00
106	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70	June'95	2 00	.....	37 50
107	4	5	5	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	June'96	2 00	.....	35 75
108	1	1	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	25	"	.....	.....	17 75
109	1	1	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	.....	30 50
110	3	4	3	1	5	2	.....	.....	.....	1	88	"	.....	.....	57 50
113	2	2	3	.....	3	1	9	.....	.....	1	41	"	.....	.....	37 00
114	4	5	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	79	"	.....	.....	45 75
115	11	11	9	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	65	"	.....	.....	59 50
116	1	2	2	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	.....	.....	32 00
118	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	"	.....	.....	12 00
119	5	5	5	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	26	"	.....	.....	17 25
120	3	2	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	.....	.....	19 00
121	10	9	11	2	2	3	3	.....	.....	.....	139	"	.....	.....	109 75
122	8	8	4	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	84	"	.....	.....	57 75
123	8	7	5	3	2	1	3	.....	.....	.....	130	"	.....	.....	87 00
125	6	6	6	.....	1	.....	3	.....	.....	1	58	"	.....	.....	55 00
126	4	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	Dec. '95	.....	.....	37 25
127	5	5	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	72	June'96	.....	.....	58 25
128	8	9	10	.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	107	"	.....	.....	95 00
129	3	8	3	.....	2	.....	11	.....	.....	1	55	"	32 00	.....	33 00
131	3	3	2	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	39	Dec. '95	.....	.....	30 75
133	2	3	3	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	June'96	.....	.....	49 25
135	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	Dec. '94	.....	.....	20 00
136	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	June'95	.....	.....	17 00
137	3	1	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	43	Dec. '95	.....	.....	33 50
139	1	.....	1	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	1	69	"	.....	.....	38 50
140	3	2	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	79	June'96	.....	7 00	50 50
141	3	3	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	Dec. '95	.....	.....	34 00
142	9	7	6	2	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	June'96	.....	6 00	60 75
143	5	5	5	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	68	Dec. '95	.....	2 00	51 00
144	9	9	11	2	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	109	June'96	.....	.....	88 50
145	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58	Dec. '94	.....	2 00	34 50
146	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	45	June'96	.....	.....	29 25
147	3	3	3	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	66	Dec. '95	.....	3 00	45 00
148	2	4	4	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	"	.....	.....	54 50
149	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	"	.....	.....	27 00
151	3	4	5	3	2	2	1	.....	.....	1	86	June'96	.....	.....	63 25
153	3	3	3	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	69	Dec. '95	9 50	.....	30 00
154	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	June'95	.....	.....	49 75
155	9	7	5	1	3	2	2	.....	.....	1	96	June'96	.....	4 00	81 50
156	3	5	7	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	107	"	29 75	.....	58 50
157	6	6	3	.....	2	2	8	.....	.....	2	60	"	.....	.....	43 50
158	3	1	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	1	43	"	.....	.....	24 00
159	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61	June'95	.....	.....	130 50
161	1	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	66	June'96	.....	3 00	.....
162	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	35	"	.....	.....	18 25

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1896, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
164	aStar in the East .	Wellington...	Tu.on or b.f.m	C.S.Cunningham	J. D. Wilson ....
165	aBurlington	Burlington...	W. on or b.f.m	R. C. Stewart.....	C. H. S. Bamford
166	aWentworth	Stoney Creek	M. on or b.f.m	T. H. Corman	R. H. Dewar.....
168	aMerritt	Welland	M. on or b.f.m	L. C. Raymond...	Geo. Wells.....
169	aMacnab.....	Pt. Colborne	Tu.on or b.f.m	T. J. O'Neill	John Cook .....
170	aBritannia.....	Seaforth	1st Monday....	John H. Reid.....	J. O. Rose.....
171	aPrince of Wales .	Iona.....	F. on or b.f.m	James C. Brown	Arch. McCallum.
172	aAyr	Ayr.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	C. McKay.....	J. Cassie.....
174	aWalsingham.....	Port Rowan..	Th.on or b.f.m	Frank Brock.....	Jas.Ryan.....
177	The Builders'	Ottawa.....	2d Friday.....	Wm. Rea.....	H. H. Cairns....
178	aPlattsville	Plattsville ...	F. on or b.f.m	Alex. Calder.....	W. M. Veitch.....
180	aSpeed.....	Guelph	1st Tuesday...	Wm. A. Rapp.....	Wm. Parker .....
181	aOriental	Port Burwell	Tu.on or b.f.m	M. G. Burwell...	D. M. Chute.....
184	aOld Light.....	Lucknow.....	Th.on or b.f.m	Jas. Bryan	Harry Days .....
185	aEnniskillen.....	York	M. on or b.f.m	Sydney N. Davis.	Jas. Peart.....
186	aPlantagenet	Plantagenet.	M. on or b.f.m	Geo. A. Ryan....	John Smith.....
190	Belmont	Belmont	F. on or b.f.m	Jos. Potts.....	John Boyd.....
192	aOrillia	Orillia.....	F. on or b.f.m	W. N. Tudpole....	T. H. Robinson...
193	aScotland	Scotland.....	M. on or b.f.m	Wilby C. Smith...	Jas. Malcolm.....
194	aPetrolia.....	Petrolia	2d Wednesday	S. D. Swift.....	Robt. Scott.....
195	aThe Tuscan	London	1st Monday....	G. T. Brown.....	R. B. Hungerford
196	aMadawaska.....	Arnprior	2d Monday....	J. E. Thompson..	J. W. Grey.....
197	aSangeen	Walkerton ...	2d Tuesday....	G. J. Dickison....	J. Marshall.....
200	St. Alban's.....	MoantForest	F. on or b.f.m	J. S. Ireland.....	R O. Kilgour.....
201	aLeeds	Gananoque...	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. G. Hinds.....	W. Y. Boyd.....
203	Irvine	Elora	3rd Friday....	Dew. Wissler.....	Thos. Godfrey....
205	New Dominion	N. Hamburg	M. on or a.f.m	John Marty, M.D.	Louis Rifz.....
207	aLancaster	Lancaster....	W. on or b.f.m	John P. Snider...	R. T.Nicholson...
209a	St. John's	London	1st Friday.....	W. J. Clarke.....	John Siddons ...
209	Evergreen	Lanark.....	1st Tuesday...	Jas. McFarlane...	Chris. M. Forbes
212	aElysian	Gar'n Island	1st Monday....	John Kennedy ..	R. Raymond.....
215	Lake	Amelias burg	M. on or b.f.m	A. L Parliament.	Geo. E. Roblin...
216	aHarris	Orangeville..	Tu.on or b.f.m	Hy. Fraser, M. D.	G. Irwin.....
217	aFrederick.....	Delhi.....	M. on or b.f.m	George Jefferies.	A. W. Crysler...
218	aStevenson	Toronto	2d Monday.....	J. Wesley Jones..	J. J. Kennersley.
219	aCredit	Georgetown..	F. on or b.f.m	Alfred Watson....	T. J.Wheeler.....
220	aZeradatha.....	Uxbridge.....	M. on or b.f.m	H. Bascom, M. D.	John G. Vicars...
221	aMountain	Thorold	W. on or b.f.m	Geo. Stanley.....	W. T. Fish.....
222	aMarmora	Marmora.....	Tuesd'y b.f.m	Mack Devlin	D. Mitchell.....
223	aNorwood	Norwood	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Hutchinson	W.H.Stephenson
224	aZurich	Hensall	Th.on or b.f.m	Wm. C. Davies...	Jas. Bonthron....
225	aBernard	Listowel	W. on or b.f.m	H. B. Morphy	J. J. Foster.....
228	aPrince Arthur	Odessa.....	M. on or a.f.m	Rev. F. T. Dibb...	Robt. Bennett...
229	aIonic	Brampton....	3rd Tuesday...	J. G. Roberts.....	A. Morton .....
230	Kerr.....	Barrie.....	4th Monday...	R. A. Douglas.....	Fred. Marr.....
231	Lodge of Fidelity.	Ottawa.....	3rd Thursday	H. Burgess.	C. J. Pearson.....
232	aCameron	Dutton	W. on or b.f.m	Neil A. Campbell	Jas. Pool .....
233	aDoric	Park Hill.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	G. M. Wedd.....	B. Kilbourn.....
234	aBeaver	Clarksburg...	Tu.on or b.f.m	Fred. D. Kent.....	J. H. Dickinson...
235	Aldworth	Paisley.....	F. on or b.f.m	W. R. Barnett....	W. R. Keyes.....
236	aManitoba.....	Cookstown....	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. J. Speers.. ...	T. S. Patterson...
237	Vienna.....	Vienna	F. on or b.f.m	C. M. Wilson.....	Geo Thornton ..
238	Havelock	Watford.....	Tu.on or b.f.m	Thos. Goodhand.	Frank Kenwood
239	Tweed	Tweed	F. on or b.f.m	J. D. Huyck.....	C. W. Huyck.....
242	aMacoy	Mallorytown	M. on or b.f.m	Wm. Stafford.....	R. W. Tennant...
243	aSt. George	St. George....	Th.on or b.f.m	Chas. Haas.....	G. S. Wait.....
245	aTecumseh	Thamesville.	Th.on or b.f.m	John Davidson...	W B. Alberton...
247	aAshlar	Toronto.....	4th Tuesday...	C. Morrison	A. R. Murphy.....
249	aCaledonian	Midland.....	2d Tuesday....	Hy. Gibson.....	S. A. Milligan...
250	Thistle.....	Embro	Th.on or b.f.m	R. A. Duncan.....	R. H. Green....
253	aMinden	Kingston	1st Monday....	Wm. Gill.....	C. McCormick...
254	Clifton	Niag. Falls...	1st Thursday..	J. C. Rothery.....	Alex. Gray.....
255	Sydenham...	Dresden	2d Thursday..	Sam. Bentley.....	D. V. Hicks.....
256	aFarran's Point...	Farran's Pt...	W. on or b.f.m	A. E. Fetterly.....	R. H. Hanes.....
257	aGalt	Galt	1st Tuesday...	C. A Powell.....	Duncan Murray.

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.—*Continued.*

No. of Lodge.	Initia'd	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Withdrawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'l'd	Rest'd.	Total Mm'bs	Last Returns	Ledger. Dr. Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal.	Paid Grand Lodge.
164	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	Dec. '95	.....	$2 00	$24 25
165	3	1	1	1	.....	2	1	.....	.....	1	47	June '96	$26 75	.....	39 00
166	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66	June '95	.....	.....	62 50
168	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	69	June '96	.....	.....	34 75
169	9	7	8	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	55	"	.....	.....	34 75
170	4	3	2	2	3	1	3	.....	.....	.....	78	"	.....	.....	64 25
171	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	June '95	.....	.....	25 00
172	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	.....	.....	18 00
174	3	4	3	2	1	3	3	.....	.....	1	50	June '96	.....	2 00	51 00
176	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	June '95	.....	.....	11 50
177	7	4	6	5	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	109	"	23 50	.....	90 00
178	3	2	2	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	42	June '96	.....	4 00	21 75
180	2	2	5	.....	8	.....	8	.....	.....	1	81	"	.....	.....	51 75
181	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	1	29	"	.....	.....	15 25
184	2	.....	.....	1	2	1	1	.....	.....	1	44	"	.....	.....	36 25
185	2	4	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	28	Dec. '95	9 50	.....	30 00
186	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	19	"	.....	.....	36 25
190	1	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	June '96	.....	.....	13 25
192	4	4	3	3	3	1	6	.....	.....	.....	110	"	80 50	.....	110 25
193	3	4	3	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	55	"	.....	.....	36 50
194	4	4	5	2	2	6	2	.....	.....	1	87	"	.....	.....	57 00
195	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	76	"	.....	.....	37 50
196	7	7	6	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	"	.....	2 00	48 50
197	1	4	5	.....	3	2	.....	.....	.....	1	44	"	.....	.....	41 75
200	3	2	3	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	44	"	13 25	.....	30 75
201	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	84	Dec. '95	.....	.....	58 75
203	.....	.....	.....	1	3	.....	1	.....	.....	1	40	June '96	.....	.....	35 00
205	7	6	6	.....	4	3	5	.....	.....	.....	30	"	2 00	.....	17 00
207	2	2	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	"	22 00	.....	21 50
209a	12	10	6	3	7	.....	7	.....	.....	2	182	"	.....	.....	124 00
209	4	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	"	.....	.....	43 50
212	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	.....	.....	17 50
215	3	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	55	"	.....	.....	42 50
216	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	121	Dec. '95	.....	.....	66 50
217	4	4	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	June '96	17 75	.....	27 00
218	12	11	12	1	7	2	4	.....	.....	1	157	"	.....	.....	118 50
2 9	2	3	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54	Dec. '65	22 25	.....	61 00
220	3	3	3	.....	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	61	June '96	.....	.....	48 25
221	4	4	4	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	62	"	.....	.....	29 50
222	2	2	2	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	"	.....	2 00	35 75
223	6	6	6	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	2	15	Dec. '95	2 00	.....	60 50
224	2	2	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	June '96	.....	.....	26 50
225	2	2	3	1	4	1	2	.....	.....	.....	75	"	.....	.....	58 75
228	2	1	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	32	"	.....	.....	20 50
229	6	7	8	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	74	"	.....	.....	70 00
230	4	5	4	1	5	1	.....	.....	.....	1	92	"	.....	2 00	77 50
231	9	10	8	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	3	76	"	.....	.....	61 25
232	1	1	1	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	"	.....	.....	32 25
233	2	5	5	.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	1	43	"	.....	5 00	34 00
234	1	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	"	.....	.....	27 75
235	2	2	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	"	.....	1 00	23 50
236	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	33	June '95	.....	.....	12 25
237	3	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	June '96	.....	.....	9 50
238	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	.....	.....	1	64	"	.....	.....	83 00
239	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	June '95	.....	.....	58 50
242	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	"	.....	.....	26 00
243	2	2	2	.....	4	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	June '96	.....	.....	34 00
245	2	2	3	2	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	"	15 75	.....	14 75
247	12	9	8	.....	5	2	4	.....	.....	1	151	"	.....	9 00	105 00
249	1	1	1	3	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	10 75	.....	42 00
250	6	6	6	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	30	"	.....	.....	31 25
253	.....	.....	.....	5	3	1	.....	.....	.....	1	67	"	.....	2 00	33 00
254	8	11	11	2	4	3	2	.....	.....	.....	90	"	.....	.....	65 50
255	4	4	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	Dec. '95	.....	2 00	31 50
256	5	5	5	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....	2	73	June '96	.....	.....	43 50
257	2	2	2	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	80	"	.....	.....	21 00

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1896, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
258	Guelph	Guelph	2d Tuesday	Geo. J. Brili	Alex. Cordiner
260	a Washington	Petrolia	1st Wednesd'y	John R Nevills	J. M. Hattie
261	a Oak Branch	Innerkip	Th.on or b.f.m	W. E. Hopkins	A. S. Shephard
262	a Harriston	Harriston	2d Monday	John L. Eedy	Patrick Lavin
263	a Forest	Forest	W. on or b.f.m	J. Hendry	P. W. Campbell
264	a Chaudiere	Ottawa	4th Tuesday	J. A. Clark	Jas. Peterkin
265	Patterson	Thornhill	Th.on or b.f.m	J. E. Francis	Rev. W.W. Bates
266	a Northern Light	Stayner	Tu.on or b.f.m	Josh. Hood	H. C. Shepard
267	Parthenon	Chatham	1st Wednesd'y	W. H. Benson	David Leckie
268	a Verulam	Bobcaygeon	F. on or b.f.m	L. W. Ross	W. J. Read
269	a Brougham Union	Brougham	W. on or a.f.m	K. J. Price, p. t.	D. K. Beaton
270	a Cedar	Oshawa	4th Tuesday	John Leander	L. K. Murton
271	Wellington	Erin	2d Wednesday	J. D. Leatch	Chas. Overland
272	Seymour	Ancaster	W. on or b.f.m	Jas. Stewart	G.D.Farmer,M.D
274	a Kent	Blenheim	M. on or b.f.m	A. F. Robertson	Chas. Senior
276	Teeswater	Teeswater	F. on or b.f.m	D. Stewart	H. B. O'Connor
277	a Seymour	P. Dalhousie	W. on or b.f.m	Geo. Wood	Alph. Kelley
278	Mystic	Roslin	Thur b.f.m	E. B. Mullitt	Wm. S. Gillespie
279	New Hope	Hespler	W. on or b.f.m	John Stark	C. M. Schultz
282	Lorne	Glencoe	Th. onor b.f.m	Jas. E. Steele	W. G. Lumley
283	a Eureka	Belleville	W. a. f. m.	W. R.Terwilligar	W. J. Diamond
284	a St. John's	Brussels	Tu. on or b.f.m	Henry James	J. A. Creighton
285	Seven Star	Alliston	W. on or b.f.m	W. S. Ellis	H. McA. Wright
286	a Wingham	Wingham	Tu. on or b.f.m	Jos Golley	J. A. Morton
287	a Shuniah	Port Arthur	1st Tuesday	R. E. Mitchell	T. J. C. Rodden
289	a Doric	Lobo	Th.on or b.f.m	Neil A. Graham	P.L.Graham,MD
290	a Leamington	Leamington	Tu.on or b.f.m	R. Miller, M. D.	M. Hetherington
291	a Dufferin	W. Flamboro	Th.on or b.f.m	Jas. Adams	Alfred Jones
292	a Robertson	King	W. on or b.f.m	E. J. Davis	Chas. Patterson
293	a P. Roy. Sol. Moth.	Jerusal'm Pa	1st Wednesd'y	W. H. Kayat	C. N. Tadros
294	a Moore	Courtright	Th.on or b.f.m	John Stockdale	Thos. H. Carter
295	a Conestogo	Drayton	Tu.on or a.f.m	David Peacock	M. G. Woodman
296	a Temple	St.Catharin's	Last Wednes.	W. G. Maybee	A. J. McGregor
297	Preston	Preston	F. on or h.f.m	M. H. Rolling	Jos. Beltzer
299	Victoria	Centreville	Th.on or b.f.m	John Lockridge	T. V. Anderson
300	a Mount Olivet	Thorndale	Tu.on or b.f.m	Rich. Guest	M. N. Wright
302	St. David's	St. Thomas	3rd Thursday	Geo. Scrase	R. H. McConnell
303	a Blyth	Blyth	Tu.on or a.f.m	W. L. Ouimette	Jas. A. Anderson
304	Minerva	Stroud	Tu.on or b.f.m	David Carlyle	C. E. Chantler
305	a Humber	Weston	W. b. f. m.	D. F. Maguire	W.J.Waterworth
306	Durham	Durham	Tu.on or b.f.m	Thos. Brown	Geo. Russell
307	a Arkona	Akrona	Th.on or b.f.m	D. J. Detwiler	A. M. Thoman
309	a Morning Star	Smith's Hill	W. on or b.f.m	John Wilson	Wm. Young
311	a Blackwood	Woodbridge	F. on or b.f.m	John P. Bunt	T. A. Agar
312	a Pnyx	Wallaceburg	M. on or b.f.m	S. B. Stewart	E. E. Parker
313	a Clementi	Lakefield	1st Tuesday	Jas. Edward	R. Q. Dench
314	a Blair	Palmerston	F. after f. m.	R. Nokes	H. Clements
315	Clifford	Clifford	3rd Monday	R. M. Hazlewood	A. S. Allan
316	a Doric	Toronto	3d Thursday	B. N. Davis	W. E. Simpson
318	Wilmot	Baden	F. on or a.f.m	Henry Walker	Alf. Kaufman
319	a Hiram	Hagersville	Th.on or b.f.m	Elvin Dixon	John H. Forman
320	a Chesterville	Chesterville	M. on or b.f.m	R. M. Smith	J. G. Gillespie
321	a Walker	Acton West	M. on or b.f.m	John Shaw	W. R. Kenney
322	a North Star	Owen Sound	W. on or a.f.m	Alex. McArthur	R. McDowall
323	a Alvinston	Alvinston	W. on or b.f.m	Chas. W. Pray	J.E.W.Branan
324	a Temple	Hamilton	2d Tuesday	C. W. Tinling	E.G.Kittson,M.D
325	a Orono	Orono	Th.on or b.f.m	M.M.Tucker,M.D	Wm. Armstrong
326	a Zetland	Toronto	4th Friday	W.D.McPherson	Alex. Stewart
327	The Hammond	Wardsville	3rd Tuesday	Thos. Heywood	D. Johnson
328	Ionic	Napier	F. on or b.f.m	Henry Gough	W.H. Sutherland
329	a King Solomon	Jarvis	F. on or b.f.m	David A. Swing	Dav d Hill
330	a Corinthian	London East	1st Tuesday	J. B. Munro	H. C. Simpson
331	Fordwich	Fordwich	Th.on or b.f.m	Alex. Wyness	A. M. Spence
332	Stratford	Stratford	2nd Monday	W W Whitchurch	Fred. J. Scarff
333	Prince Arthur	Flesherton	Fonorb.f.m	Geo. Mitchell	W. J. Ballamy
334	a Prince Arthur	Arthur	Tu.on or b.f.m	Thos. Rafter	Geo. A. Scroggie

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.—*Continued.*

No. of Lodge.	Initiated	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Withdrawn	Deaths	S.N.P.D.	S.U.M.C.	Exp'ld	Rest'd.	Total Mmb'ps	Last Returns	Ledger. Dr. Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal.	Paid Grand Lodge.
258	2	3	2	4	3	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	73	June '96	.....	.....	$48 50
260	5	3	3	.....	4	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	75	"	20 25	.....	84 00
261	5	.....	.....	2	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	22	"	11 00	.....	2 00
262	4	3	2	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	1	47	"	.....	.....	24 25
263	4	2	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	57	"	.....	.....	37 50
264	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	89	Dec. '95	.....	.....	.....
265	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	23	June '96	22 75	.....	10 00
266	2	2	3	2	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	42	Dec. '95	.....	.....	32 75
267	1	1	2	.....	6	.....	2	.....	.....	2	54	June '96	.....	.....	33 25
268	1	1	1	.....	1	2	2	.....	.....	.....	34	"	.....	.....	18 75
269	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	13 25
270	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	69	"	.....	.....	40 50
271	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	"	.....	.....	20 00
272	3	3	3	.....	1	.....	9	.....	.....	2	37	"	.....	.....	24 75
274	4	3	2	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	2	67	"	.....	.....	41 75
276	2	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	13 00
277	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	Dec. '95	1 00	.....	20 50
278	1	1	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	June '96	.....	.....	15 25
279	.....	1	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	57	"	.....	.....	49 00
282	4	2	2	3	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	"	.....	$19 00	41 75
283	6	2	1	.....	2	3	1	.....	.....	2	61	"	.....	6 00	40 25
284	1	2	3	.....	3	1	6	.....	.....	4	54	"	.....	.....	18 25
285	6	6	5	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	14 00
286	2	2	1	2	1	1	4	.....	.....	.....	43	Dec. '95	.....	.....	27 50
287	2	1	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	"	6 00	.....	32 25
289	1	2	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	48	"	.....	.....	26 75
290	3	6	5	1	2	1	3	.....	.....	.....	75	June '96	.....	.....	60 25
291	1	3	3	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	37	"	.....	4 00	26 50
292	7	10	11	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	1	54	"	.....	6 00	59 75
293	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	Dec. '94	.....	.....	.....
294	4	5	5	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	June '96	.....	.....	44 75
295	5	5	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	"	.....	2 00	60 25
296	5	3	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	52	"	.....	.....	38 00
297	3	3	3	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	25	"	.....	.....	14 75
299	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	"	.....	.....	49 25
300	3	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	Dec. '95	.....	.....	36 50
302	5	4	5	.....	3	.....	9	.....	.....	5	88	June '96	22 50	.....	63 00
303	4	2	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	53	"	2 00	.....	41 50
304	.....	.....	.....	1	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	19	"	.....	.....	13 00
305	5	5	2	1	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	32 00
306	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	38	"	9 25	.....	25 50
307	3	3	2	.....	6	.....	1	.....	.....	1	43	"	.....	2 00	34 00
309	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	Dec. '94	.....	.....	.....
311	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	June '96	.....	.....	29 75
312	5	4	3	3	2	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	86	Dec. '95	2 00	.....	82 75
313	2	2	1	1	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	39	June '96	.....	.....	20 25
314	2	2	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	56	"	.....	.....	31 00
315	3	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	27 00
316	5	3	3	1	3	2	.....	1	.....	1	128	"	.....	.....	85 00
318	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	"	.....	3 75	21 50
319	3	3	1	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	"	.....	.....	27 50
320	10	8	7	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	77	"	.....	.....	60 00
321	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	24	"	.....	.....	12 25
322	4	3	1	.....	1	2	6	.....	.....	1	75	"	.....	.....	59 00
323	10	8	7	.....	2	2	8	1	.....	1	54	"	.....	4 00	74 00
324	13	13	7	.....	4	3	1	.....	.....	.....	216	"	.....	.....	128 50
325	1	1	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	"	.....	.....	23 75
326	18	18	11	8	16	2	.....	.....	.....	3	247	"	.....	.....	169 75
327	1	4	4	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	21	"	.....	.....	17 00
328	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	June '95	.....	.....	12 00
329	1	1	1	.....	1	2	3	.....	.....	.....	41	June '96	.....	.....	24 00
330	13	11	10	2	.....	2	1	.....	.....	4	91	"	.....	.....	33 75
331	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	Dec. '94	.....	3 25	7 75
332	6	4	5	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	124	June '96	.....	2 00	93 50
333	2	2	2	.....	8	.....	3	.....	.....	3	33	"	2 00	.....	22 75
334	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	June '95	15 00	.....	17 00

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1896, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
336	*aHighgate	Highgate	F. on or b.f.m	John A. Walker	D.P.McPhail,MD
337	*aMyrtle	Pt. Robinson	Tu.on or b.f.m	C. B. Bennett	Thos. Sowersby
338	Dufferin	Wellandport	Tu.on or b.f.m	Hanson Gracey	J. R. Goring
339	*aOrient	Toronto	1st Tuesday	W. J. Chick	H. Tolhurst
341	*aBruce	Tiverton	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. Henders	J. Chambers,MD
343	Georgina	Toronto	Th.on or b.f.m	A. L. Malone	Geo. E. Brown
344	Merrill	Dorch'st'r S'n	Th.on or b.f.m	J. C. McNevin	W. H. Shaw
345	Nilestown	Nilestown	Th.on or b.t.m	J. Hutchison	J. McDougall
346	*aThe Occident	Toronto	3d Wednesd'y	F. Prince	John Lillis
347	*aMercer	Fergus	1st Friday	John B. Bayne	James Philip
348	*aGeorgian	Pen'tang'sh'e	1st Thursday	G. H. Wright	J. J. Buckley
352	*aGranité	Parry Sound	W. on or b.f.m	Wm. E. Foot	D. Macfarlane
354	Brock	Cannington	W. on or b.f.m	Joseph A. Kift	John Sharp
356	*aRiver Park	Streetsville	Tu.on or b.f.m	James Miller	Wm. Taylor
357	Waterdown	Waterdown	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. D. Courtney	W. R. Wilson
358	*aDeleware Valley	Delaware	F. on or b.f.m	J. R. Hammond	R.R. Montgom'ry
359	*aVittoria	Vittoria	F. on or b.f.m	Wm. Mitchell	D. W. McCall
360	*aMuskoka	Bracebridge	Tu.on or b.f.m	Rich. Mills	Isaac Huber
361	*aWaverley	Guelph	4th Monday	John A. Ross	R. H. Rodger
362	*aMaple Leaf	Tara	M. on or b.f.m	T. McNally, M.D.	Jas A. Macdonald
364	*aDufferin	Melbourne	W. on or b.f.m	Geo. J. Hagerty	A. R. Houston
367	*aSt. George	Toronto	1st Friday	Frank Denton	W. J. Grey, p.t.
368	Salem	Brockville	2nd Monday	Alex. Price	E. A. Geige
369	*aMimico	Lambton M.	Tu.on or b.f.m	Rev. A. R. Linton	Frank F. Reeves
370	Harmony	Delta	W. on or b.f.m	C. N. Mallory	J. W. Russell
371	*aPrince of Wales	Ottawa	4th Friday	W. Borthwick	C. W. Close
372	*aPalmer	Bracebury	Tu.on or a.f.m	Thos. J. Wilber	J. G. Watts
373	*aCopestone	Welland	1st Thursday	Alex. Rumsey	W. G. Somerville
374	*aKeene	Keene	Th.on or b.f.m	Wm. Shark	J. M. Shaw, M.D.
375	*aLorne	Omemee	1st Thursday	T. A. McPherson	A. Laidley
376	*aUnity	Huntsville	W. on or b.f.m	T. J. Sacret	Jas. E. Fisher
377	*aLorne	Shelburne	1st Friday	C. Mason	Wm. Collins
378	*aKing Solomon's	London West	4th Tuesday	A. R. Galpin	W. Nicholl
379	*aMiddlesex	Bryanston	W.on or b.f.m.	D. McPherson	Wm. Smibert
380	*aUnion	London	2nd Monday	Geo. F. Morris	Jos. Ward
382	Doric	Hamilton	3rd Monday	Fred Walter	C V.Emory, M.D.
383	*aHenderson	W. Winch'ter	1st Tuesday	Geo. Johnston	S. S. Reveler
384	*aAlpha	Toronto	1st Thursday	Jas. Ingman	E. J. Voss
385	*aSpry	Beeton	W.on or a.f.m	Wm. Nichol	J. R. Croft
386	*aMcColl	West Lorne	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. A. Fuller	R. McFate
387	*aLansdowne	Lansdowne	Th.on or b.f.m	John M. Shaw	C. J. Young
388	Henderson	Ilderton	M.on or b. f.m	J. H. McRae	E. Ironside
389	*aCrystal Fountain	N. Augusta	W.on or b.f.m	W. H. Waddell	J. H. McCulley
390	*aFlorence	Florence	Th.on or b.f.m	J. W. Clarke	J. D. McMillan
391	*aHoward	Ridgetown	M. on or b.f.m	L. D. Parney	W. H. Ellsworth
392	*aHuron	Camlachie	W. on or b.f.m	Abner McIntyre	A. Trusler
393	*aForest	Chesley	1st Tuesday	John A. Adolph	Jas. C. Brown
394	King Solomon	Thamesford	W. on or b.f.m	Geo. Mills	E. A. Dundas
395	Parvaim	Comber	Th.on or b.f.m	E. S. Hughes	C L.MacDermott
396	*aCedar	Wiarton	Tu.on or b.f.m	Wm. J. Ferguson	W. H. Brown
397	*aLeopold	Brigden	W.on or b.f.m	F. R. Seager, M.D	W. J. Ward
398	Victoria	Vict'r'a Road	W.on or b.f.m.	F. B. Tripp	Alfred Taylor
399	Moffat	Harrietsville	W.on or b.f.m	T. M. Morrison	J. J. Jolly
400	*aOakville	Oakville	Tu.on or b.f.m	Henry Wilson	A. S. Forster
401	*aCraig	Deseronto	1st Tuesday	W. J. Malley.	E. Townsend
402	*aCentral	Essex Centre	W on or b.f.m	C. E. Naylor	J. F. McQueen
403	*aWindsor	Windsor	1st Friday	John Wilkinson	Jas. C. Guillot
404	*aLorne	Tamworth	F. on or a f.m	Geo. H. Dean	Jas. Aylesworth
405	Mattawa	Mattawa	1st Tuesday	C. W. Haentchell	A. N. Grasswell
406	*aThe Spry	Fenel'n Falls	W on or b.f.m	Ed. Fitzgerald	Rev W. Farncomb
408	Murray	Beaverton	Tu.on or b.f.m	A. D. Dobson	Wm. Williamson
409	*aGolden Rule	Gravenhurst	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. H Brown	J. C. Davidson
410	*aZeta	Toronto	4th Thursday	Geo. T. Pendrith	A. R. Symons
411	*aRodney	Rodney	Th.on or b.f.m	J. B. Stinson	Edwin A. Hugill
412	*aKeystone	S. St. Marie	Tu.on or b.f.m	J. M. Wemyss	W. J. Thompson.
413	*aNaphtali	Tilb'y Cent'e	Tu.on or b.f.m	Jas. Reynolds	W. A. Hutton

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.—*Continued.*

No. of Lodge.	Initiated	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Withdrawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total Mem'bs	Last Returns	Ledger. Dr. Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal	Paid Grand Lodge.
336	5	4	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	June '96	$24 00	.....	$ .....
337	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	"	16 50	.....	35 50
338	2	2	2	.....	1	.....	8	.....	.....	1	18	"	.....	88 50	42 00
339	10	9	10	.....	2	3	5	.....	.....	3	161	"	39 25	.....	60 00
341	1	1	1	.....	1	2	1	.....	.....	1	52	Dec. '95	.....	.....	51 00
343	19	18	11	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76	"	.....	10 00	120 75
344	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	23	June '96	.....	.....	12 50
345	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	23	"	6 00	.....	14 50
346	.....	2	1	.....	6	2	7	.....	.....	1	136	"	1 00	.....	108 00
347	2	2	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	Dec. '95	.....	.....	27 50
348	2	3	2	2	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	25	"	.....	8 25	.....
352	5	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	June '96	.....	.....	35 25
354	5	4	4	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	42	"	12 25	.....	16 50
356	2	2	2	1	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	33	"	.....	.....	26 00
357	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	Dec. '94	.....	.....	1 00
358	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	44	June '96	.....	.....	81 75
359	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	35	"	.....	.....	23 25
360	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	"	.....	.....	37 50
361	4	5	4	1	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	100	"	2 00	.....	81 00
362	4	2	1	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	41	"	.....	.....	34 25
364	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	Dec. '93	26 50	.....	2 00
367	3	3	2	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	123	June '96	.....	.....	66 00
368	7	5	2	3	3	1	.....	.....	.....	2	100	"	.....	.....	65 00
369	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	Dec. '95	.....	.....	31 50
370	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	June '95	.....	2 00	110 00
371	2	1	2	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	69	June '96	.....	.....	43 00
372	6	6	6	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	"	.....	.....	35 25
373	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	June '95	.....	.....	37 75
374	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	June '93	.....	.....	15 00
375	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	Dec. '94	.....	5 25	16 50
376	5	4	6	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	55	Dec. '95	.....	.....	60 50
377	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	7	.....	.....	1	49	June '96	.....	.....	15 00
378	4	4	4	.....	1	1	4	.....	.....	.....	152	"	.....	4 00	50 00
379	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	Dec. '95	.....	.....	12 00
380	12	10	7	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	1	82	"	.....	2 00	126 50
382	10	10	9	.....	4	4	1	.....	.....	2	147	June '96	.....	.....	100 50
383	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	"	.....	.....	30 00
384	9	11	10	2	3	1	6	.....	.....	.....	160	"	46 25	.....	148 75
385	2	2	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	25	"	.....	.....	15 50
386	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	June '95	23 50	.....	40 25
387	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	Dec. '95	.....	.....	25 25
388	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	40	June '96	.....	.....	32 75
389	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	"	.....	.....	36 00
390	1	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	18	"	.....	.....	22 25
391	8	9	8	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	1	75	"	.....	.....	49 50
392	1	1	1	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	3	46	"	.....	.....	29 50
393	2	4	5	2	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	52	Dec. '95	.....	.....	42 00
394	3	4	4	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	52	June '96	.....	.....	36 50
395	1	1	1	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	"	.....	2 00	26 50
396	4	4	3	1	4	.....	2	.....	.....	1	53	"	.....	.....	40 75
397	1	1	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	Dec. '95	.....	.....	28 00
398	2	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	"	.....	.....	22 00
399	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	"	.....	.....	18 00
400	1	4	4	.....	3	1	4	.....	.....	1	86	June '96	.....	.....	78 50
401	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	51	"	13 00	.....	14 50
402	5	3	2	2	5	1	.....	.....	.....	1	51	"	.....	.....	36 00
403	9	10	7	1	4	1	.....	.....	.....	2	97	"	.....	.....	86 50
404	2	2	2	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	11 25
405	10	12	10	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	84	"	.....	.....	61 75
406	5	5	5	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37	"	.....	.....	32 00
408	1	1	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	"	2 00	.....	20 00
409	2	2	2	1	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	24 00
410	3	7	8	1	3	2	3	1	.....	.....	62	Dec. '95	.....	2 00	24 75
411	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	June '95	.....	.....	24 00
412	4	5	7	2	5	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	82	June '96	.....	.....	57 25
413	6	11	13	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52	Dec. '95	28 00	.....	34 50

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1896, AND

No. of Lodge.	Lodge.	Where Held.	Night of Meeting.	W. Master.	Secretary.
414	Pequonga	Rat Portage	1st Wednesd'y	A. More	Rev. R. Nairn
415	*a* Fort William	Fort William	1st Wednesd'y	F. C. Perry	A. McDougall
416	Lyn	Lyn	Tu.on or b.f.m	W. Lee	G. A. Hoag
417	*a* Keewatin	Keewat'n Mls	1st Friday	John McCall	T. J. Cherry
418	*a* Maxville	Maxville	2nd Tuesday	DonaldA. Munro	T. W. Munro
419	*a* Bismarck	Pt. Edward	2nd Monday	B. F. George	Eugene Phelps
420	*a* Nipissing	North Bay	2nd Thursday	R. McKuight,MD	H. A. Washburn
421	*a* Scott	Grand Valley	W. on or b.f.m	G. H. Cooper	J. A. V. Preston
422	*a* Star of the East	Bothwell	W. on or b.f m	Wm. R. Hickey	Chas. E. Bayley
423	*a* Strong	Sundridge	3d Wednesday	H. W. Muir	J. G. Hayes
424	*a* Doric	Pickering	Th. on or b.f.m	Alex. Falconer	John Gorm ey
425	*a* St. Clair	Sombra	Tu. on or b.f.m	Jas. Kennedy	G. W. Smith
426	*a* Stanley	W. Tor. June	1st Tuesday	Fred. J. White	A. H Perfect
427	*a* Nickel	Sudbury	1st Wednesd'y	R. Dorsett	S. Rondeau
428	Fidelity	Port Perry	F. on or b. f.m	E. J. Wheeler	J. H Brown
429	*a* Port Elgin	Port Elgin	Th.on or b.f.m	Amos R.Elliott	W. J. Cameron
430	*a* Acacia	East Toronto	3rd Monday	W.R.Walters,MD	W.J.A. Carnahan
431	*a* Moravian	Eden Grove	F. on or a. f.m	J. D. Chittick	C. W. Keeling
432	*a* Hanover	Hanover	F. on or b.f.m	Robert Sypher	Jno. Sutherland.
433	Bonnechere	Eganville	2nd Monday	Wm. F. Fraser	Carol E. Weber
434	Algonquin	Emsdale	Tu.on or b.f.m	Allan Kilpatrick	W. G. McDonald
435	Havelock	Havelock	F. on or b.f.m.	Wm. H. Port	W. S. Dodd
436	Burns	Hepworth	F. on or a. f.m.	Jas. E. Campbell	D. Cameron
437	Tuscan	Sarnia	W.on or a.f.m.	Julius P. Bucke	W. White
438	Harmony	Toronto	4th Monday	Geo. C.Patterson	John G. Gibson
U.D	Alexandria	Alexandria	1st Wednesd'y	LeanderC.Harris	

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1896.—*Continued.*

No. of Lodge.	Initiated	Passed.	Raised.	Joined.	Withdrawn.	Deaths	S. N. P. D.	S. U. M. C.	Exp'd	Rest'd.	Total Mmbrs	Last Returns	Ledger. Dr. Bal.	Ledger. Cr. Bal.	Paid Grand Lodge.
414	3	3	2	3	3	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	86	June '96	.....	.....	$88 25
415	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	Dec. '95	.....	2 00	41 75
416	2	3	3	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	June '96	.....	.....	21 50
417	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	52	"	.....	.....	31 50
418	6	6	6	1	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	"	.....	12 00	49 00
419	3	3	2	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	1	70	"	.....	.....	37 00
420	2	2	2	.....	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	81	"	.....	.....	44 75
421	5	5	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	"	.....	.....	23 00
422	4	4	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	"	.....	.....	25 00
423	4	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	Dec. '95	18 00	.....	54 50
424	2	1	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	30	June '96	.....	.....	20 50
425	6	5	4	.....	3	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	37	"	.....	.....	31 25
426	9	5	8	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	89	"	15 00	.....	74 50
427	17	10	18		3	.....	5	.....	.....	3	92	"	.....	.....	52 00
428	5	3	3		1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	31	"	.....	.....	26 50
429	4	5	4	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	25 25
430	10	11	10	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69	"	.....	.....	39 00
431	4	3	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	"	.....	2 00	25 75
432	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	June '95	10 00	.....	20 00
433	7	7	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	June '96	.....	13 50	59 75
434	12	10	9	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	24	"	.....	.....	39 25
435	8	8	2	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	"	.....	.....	50 00
436	3	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	"	.....	.....	20 00
437	6	4	3	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	"	.....	.....	23 00
438	13	13	7	5	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	"	.....	.....	32 50
U.D	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	.....	.....	.....	20 00
												Inter'st	Gen'ral	Fund...	3184 67
												"	Asy'um	"	434 00
												Sundr's	.....	.....	276 00
	1350	1300	1186	337	657	255	587	10	1	153	23351		1165 00	232 00	20215 17

LIST OF LODGES—BY DISTRICTS.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1. (22.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. W. R. Hickey, Bothwell.

No.	34,	Thistle	"	327,	The Hammond
"	41,	St. George	"	336,	Highgate
"	46,	Wellington	"	386,	McColl
"	47,	Great Western	"	390,	Florence
"	245,	Tecumseh	"	391,	Howard
"	255,	Sydenham	"	395,	Parvaim
"	267,	Parthenon	"	402,	Central
"	274,	Kent	"	403,	Windsor
"	282,	Lorne	"	411,	Rodney
"	290,	Leamington	"	413,	Naphtali
"	312,	Pnyx	"	422,	Star of the East

Amherstburg
Kingsville
Chatham
Windsor
Thamesville
Dresden
Chatham
Blenheim
Glencoe
Leamington
Wallaceburg
Wardsville
Highgate
West Lorne
Florence
Ridgetown
Comber
Essex Centre
Windsor
Rodney
Tilbury Centre
Bothwell

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 2. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. B. F. George, Point Edward.

No.	56,	Victoria	"	294,	Moore
"	81,	St. John's	"	307,	Arkona
"	83,	Beaver	"	323,	Alvinston
"	116,	Cassia	"	328,	Ionic
"	153,	Burns	"	364,	Dufferin
"	158,	Alexandra	"	392,	Huron
"	194,	Petrolia	"	397,	Leopold
"	238,	Havelock	"	419,	Bismarck
"	260,	Washington	"	425,	St. Clair
"	261,	Forest	"	437,	Tuscan

Sarnia
Mt. Brydges
Strathroy
Thedford
Wyoming
Oil Springs
Petrolia
Watford
Petrolia
Forest
Courtright
Arkona
Alvinston
Napier
Melbourne
Camlachie
Brigden
Point Edward
Sombra
Sarnia

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 3. (26.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. W. G. McMillen, London.

No.	20,	St. John's	"	289,	Doric
"	42,	St. George's	"	300,	Mt. Olivet
"	44,	St. Thomas	"	302,	St. David's
"	64,	Kilwinning	"	330,	Corinthian
"	94,	St. Mark's	"	344,	Merrill
"	107,	St. Paul's	"	345,	Nilestown
"	120,	Warren	"	358,	Delaware Valley
"	140,	Malahide	"	378,	King Solomon's
"	171,	Prince of Wales	"	379,	Middlesex
"	190,	Belmont	"	380,	Union
"	195,	Tuscan	"	388,	Henderson
"	209a,	St. John's	"	394,	King Solomon
"	230,	Cameron	"	399,	Moffat

Port Stanley
London
Fingal
Aylmer
Iona
Belmont
London
London
London
Dutton
Lobo
Thorndale
St. Thomas
London East
Dorchester Station
Nilestown
Delaware
London W
Bryanston
London
Ilderton
Thamesford
Harrietsville

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, No. 4. (15.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. John W. Shaw, M. D., Clinton.

No.	33,	Maitland	"	205,	New Dominion
"	73,	St. James'	"	224,	Zurich
"	84,	Clinton	"	233,	Doric
"	133,	Lebanon Forest	"	303,	Blyth
"	141,	Tudor	"	309,	Morning Star
"	144,	Tecumseh	"	318,	Wilmot
"	154,	Irving	"	332,	Stratford
"	170,	Britannia			

Goderich
St. Mary's
Clinton
Exeter
Mitchell
Stratford
Lucan
Seaforth
New Hamb'g
Hensall
Park Hill
Blyth
Smith's Hill
Baden
Stratford

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, No. 5. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. J. S. Tennant, Lucknow.

No.	93,	Northern Light	"	331,	Fordwich
"	131,	St. Lawrence	"	341,	Bruce
"	162,	Forest	"	362,	Maple Leaf
"	184,	Old Light	"	393,	Forest
"	197,	Saugeen	"	396,	Cedar
"	225,	Bernard	"	429,	Port Elgin
		[illegible]	"	431,	Moravian
	2[illegible],	Thorndale	"	432,	Hanover
	2[illegible],	St. John's	"	436,	Burns
	235,	Wingham			

Kincardine
Southampton
Wroxeter
Lucknow
Walkerton
Listowel
[illegible]
Thorndale
St. John's
Wingham
Fordwich
Tiverton
Tara
Chesley
Wiarton
Port Elgin
Eden Grove
Hanover
Hepworth

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Thomas Allshire, Ratho.

No.		
"	10,	Norfolk.....Simcoe
"	37,	King Hiram.....Ingersoll
"	43,	King Solomon.....Woodstock
"	68,	St. John's.....Ingersoll
"	76,	Oxford.....Woodstock
"	78,	King Hiram.....Tilsenburg
"	82,	St. John's.....Paris
"	104,	St. John's.....Norwich
"	106,	Burford.....Burford
"	108,	Blenheim.....Princeton
"	113,	Wilson .....Waterford
No.	149,	Erie.. .... Port Dover
"	174,	Walsingham.....Port Rowan
"	178,	Flatisville.... .....Plattsville
"	181,	Oriental.....Port Burwell
"	193,	Scotland.....Scotland
"	217,	Frederick.....Delhi
"	237,	Vienna..... .....Vienna
"	250,	Thistle..... .....Embro
"	261,	Oak Branch.....Innerkip
"	369,	Vittoria.....Vittoria

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Andrew J. Oliver, Galt.

No.		
No.	72,	Alma .....Galt
"	151,	The Grand River.....Berlin
"	172,	Ayr.....Ayr
"	180,	Speed.....Guelph
"	200,	St. Alban's.....Mount Forest
"	203,	Irvine .....Elora
"	216,	Harris.....Orangeville
"	257,	Galt.....Galt
"	258,	Guelph .....Guelph
"	262,	Harriston.....Harriston
"	271,	Wellington.....Erin
No.	279,	New Hope.....Hespeler
"	295,	Conestogo..... Drayton
"	297,	Preston..... ... Preston
"	306,	Durham.....Durham
"	314,	Blair.....Palmerston
"	315,	Clifford.....Clifford
"	334,	Prince Arthur.....Arthur
"	347,	Mercer.....Fergus
"	361,	Waverley .....Guelph
"	421,	Scott.....Grand Valley

HAMILTON DISIRICT, NO. 8. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. G. Liddell, Brantford.

No.		
No.	6,	The Bar on .....Hamilton
"	27,	Strict Observance.Hamilton
"	40,	St. John's.....Hamilton
"	45,	Brant.....Brantford
"	57,	Harmony.....Binbrook
"	61,	Acacia.....Hamilton
"	62,	St. Andrew's.....Caledonia
"	100,	Valley.....Dundas
"	121,	Doric.....Brantford
"	135,	St. Clair.....Milton
"	165,	Burlington .....Burlington
No.	166,	Wentworth.....Stoney Creek
"	219,	Credit.....Georgetown
"	243,	St. George.....St. George
"	272,	Seymour.....Ancaster
"	291,	Dufferin.....West Flamboro'
"	321,	Walker.....Acton West
"	324,	Temple.....Hamilton
"	357,	Waterdown.....Waterdown
"	382,	Doric.....Hamilton
"	400,	Oakville.....Oakville

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9. (18.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Robert McKnight, Owen Sound.

No.		
No.	79,	Simcoe .....Bradford
"	88,	St. George's.....Owen Sound
"	90,	Manito.....Collingwood
"	96,	Corinthian .....Barrie
"	137,	Pythagoras .....Meaford
"	192,	Orillia.....Orillia
"	230,	Kerr .....Barrie
"	234,	Beaver.....Clarksburg
"	236,	Manitoba.....Cookstown
No.	249,	Caledonian ..... Midland
"	266,	Northern Light ..... Stayner
"	285,	Seven Star.....Alliston
"	304,	Minerva.....Stroud
"	322,	North Star.....Owen Sound
"	333,	Prince Arthur.....Flesherton
"	348,	Georgian...Penetanguishene
"	377,	Lorne..... .....Shelburne
"	385,	Spry.....Beeton

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Samuel Amsden, Dunnville.

No.		
No.	2,	Niagara.....Niagara
"	7,	Union.....Grimsby
"	15,	St. George's...St. Catharines
"	32,	Amity..... .....Dunnville
"	35,	St. John's.....Cayuga
"	103,	Maple Leaf...St. Catharines
"	105,	St. Mark's...Drummondville
"	115,	Ivy.....Beamsville
"	168,	Merritt.....Welland
"	169,	Macnab.....Port Colborne
"	185,	Enniskillen.....York
No.	221,	Mountain.....Thorold
"	254,	Clifton.....Niagara
"	277,	Seymour.....Port Dalhousie
"	296,	Temple.....St. Catharines
"	319,	Hiram.....Hagersville
"	329,	King Solomon.....Jarvis
"	337,	Myrtle.....Port Robinson
"	338,	Dufferin.....Wellandport
"	372,	Palmer.....Victoria
"	373,	Copestone.....Welland

TORONTO DISTRICT NO. 11. (40.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Aubrey White, Toronto.

No.		No.	
16,	St. Andrews.....Toronto	265,	Patterson .....Thornhill
" 22,	King Solomon's.....Toronto	" 269,	Brougham Union..Brougham
" 23,	Richmond.....Richmond Hill	" 292,	Robertson.....Nobleton
" 25,	Ionic.....Toronto	" 305,	Humber.....Weston
" 54,	Vaughan.....Maple	" 311,	Blackwood.....Woodbridge
" 65,	Rehoboam.....Toronto	" 316,	Doric .....Toronto
" 75,	St. John's.....Toronto	" 326,	Zetland .....Toronto
" 86,	Wilson.....Toronto	" 339,	Orient.....Toronto
" 87,	Markham Union...Markham	" 343,	Georgina .....Toronto
" 97,	Sharon .....Sharon	" 346,	Occident.....Toronto
" 98,	True Blue..... .....Albion	" 354,	Brock ..... Cannington
" 99,	Tuscan.....Newmarket	" 356,	River Park .....Streetsville
" 118,	Union .....Schomberg	" 367,	St. George.....Toronto
" 129,	The Rising Sun.....Aurora	" 369,	Mimico.....Lambton Mills
" 136,	Richardson ..... Stouffville	" 384,	Aipha.....Toronto
" 156,	York .....North Toronto	" 410,	Zeta.....Toronto
" 218,	Stevenson .....Toronto	" 424,	Doric.....Pickering
" 220,	Zeredatha.....Uxbridge	" 426,	Stanley.....Toronto Junction
" 229,	Ionic .....Brampton	" 430,	Acacia ..... East Toronto
" 247,	Ashlar .....Toronto	" 438,	Harmony .....Toronto

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12. (24.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Andrew M. Ross, Whitby.

No.		No.	
26,	Ontario ..... Port Hope	268,	Verulam.....Bobcaygeon
" 30,	Composite .....Whitby	" 270,	Cedar .....Oshawa
" 31,	Jerusalem .....Bowmanville	" 313,	Clementi .....Lakefield
" 39,	Mount Zion.....Brooklin	" 325,	Orono.....Orono
" 66,	Durham .....Newcastle	" 374,	Keene.....Keene
" 77,	Faithful Brethren...Lindsay	" 375,	Lorne .....Omemee
" 101,	Corinthian .....Peterborough	" 398,	Victoria.....Victoria Road
" 114,	Hope .....Port Hope	" 406,	The Spry.....Fenelon Falls
" 139,	Lebanon .....Oshawa	" 408,	Murray.....Beaverton
" 145,	J. B. Hall.....Millbrook	" 428,	Fidelity.....Port Perry
" 155,	Peterborough .Peterborough	" 435,	Havelock.....Havelock
" 223,	Norwood.....Norwood	" U. D.,	Algonquin ..... Minden

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Henry Pringle, Belleville.

No.		No.	
11,	Moira.....Belleville	125,	Golden Rule...CampLellford
" 17,	St. John's ..... Cobourg	" 127,	Franck .....Frankford
" 18,	Prince Edward.....Picton	" 161,	Percy.....Warkworth
" 29,	United.....Brighton	" 164,	Star in the East..Wellington
" 38,	Trent .....Trenton	" 215,	Lake .....Ameliasburg
" 48,	Madoc .....Madoc	" 222,	Marmora .....Marmora
" 50,	Consecon.....Consecon	" 239,	Tweed .....Tweed
" 69,	Stirling.....Stirling	" 278,	Mystic.....Roslin
" 91,	Colborne .....Colborne	" 283,	Eureka.....Belleville
" 123,	The Belleville.....Belleville	" 401,	Craig .....Deseronto

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14. (13.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Geo. A. Aylesworth, Newburgh.

No.		No.	
3,	The Anc'tSt.John's.Kingston	201,	Leeds.....Gananoque
" 9,	Union.....Napanee	" 212,	Elysian.....Garden Island
" 92,	Cataraqui .....Kingston	" 228,	Prince Arthur.....Odessa
" 109,	Albion.....Harrowsmith	" 253,	Minden .....Kingston
" 119,	Maple Leaf .....Bath	" 299,	Victoria .....Centreville
" 146,	Prince of Wales....Newburgh	" 404,	Lorne .....Tamworth
" 157,	Simpson ..... Newboro'		

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT. NO. 15. (23.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. D. A. Macdonell, Iroquois.

No.		No.	
5,	Sussex.....Brockville	242,	Macoy.....Mallorytown
" 14,	True Britons.....Perth	" 256,	Farran's Point...Farran's P't
" 24,	St. Francis.....Smith's Falls	" 320,	Chesterville .....Chesterville
" 28,	Mount Zion.....Kemptville	" 368,	Salem .....Brockville
" 55,	Merrickville.....Merrickville	" 370,	Harmony.....Delta
" 74,	St. James .....Bethel	" 383,	Henderson.West Winchester
" 85,	Rising Sun ..... Farmersville	" 387,	Lansdowne .....Lansdowne
" 110,	Central.....Prescott	" 389,	Crystal Fountain.N Augusta
" 125,	Cornwall .....Cornwall	" 416,	Lyn .....Lyn
" 142,	Excelsior.....Morrisburg	" 418,	Maxville.....Maxville
" 143,	Friendly Brothers...Iroquois	" U. D.,	Alexandria .....Alexandria
" 207,	Lancaster.....Lancaster		

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16. (18.)

D.D.G.M.--R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, Ottawa.

No.	21*a*, St. John's.....Vanleek Hill	No.	177, The Builders'.....Ottawa
"	52, Dalhousie.....Ottawa	"	186, Plantagenet.....Plantagenet
"	58, Doric.....Ottawa	"	196, Madawaska.....Arnprior
"	63, St. John's...Carleton Place	"	209, Evergreen.....Lanark
"	122. Renfrew.....Renfrew	"	231, Lodge of Fidelity.....Ottawa
"	128, Pembroke.....Pembroke	"	264, Chaudiere.....Ottawa
"	147, Mississippi.....Almonte	"	371, Prince of Wales.....Ottawa
"	148, Civil Service.....Ottawa	"	405, Mattawa.....Mattawa
"	159, Goodwood.....Richmond	"	433, Bonnechere.....Eganville

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 16. (5.)

D.D G.M.—R.W. Bro. R. A. Mather, Keewatin.

No.	287, Shuniah.....Port Arthur	No.	415, Fort William..Fort William
"	412, Key Stone...Sault Ste Marie	"	417, Keewatin.....Keewatin Mills
"	414, Pequonga.....Rat Portage		

NIPPISSING DISTRICT NO. 18. (8.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. H. Knifton, Parry Sound.

No.	352, Granite.....Parry Sound	No.	420, Nippissing.....North Bay
"	360, Muskoka.....Bracebridge	"	423, Strong.....Sundridge
"	376, Unity.....Huntsville	"	427, Nickel.....Sudbury
"	409, Golden Rule...Gravenhurst	"	434, Algonquin.....Emsdale

NOT ATTACHED TO ANY DISTRICT.

No. 293, The Royal Solomon Mother, Jerusalem, Palestine.

RECAPITULATION.

Erie	District No. 1	22	Lodges
St. Clair	" " 2	20	"
London	" " 3	23	"
South Huron	" " 4	15	"
North Huron	" " 5	19	"
Wilson	" " 6	21	"
Wellington	" " 7	21	"
Hamilton	" " 8	21	"
Georgian	" " 9	18	"
Niagara	" " 10	21	"
Toronto	" " 11	40	"
Ontario	" " 12	24	"
Prince Edward	" " 13	20	"
Frontenac	" " 14	13	"
St. Lawrence	" " 15	23	"
Ottawa	" " 16	18	"
Algoma	" " 17	5	"
Nipissing	" " 18	8	"
Unattached		1	"
Total		357	

EXPULSIONS BY GRAND LODGE.

No. 96—W. C. Tait.

SUSPENSIONS FOR U. M. C., 1895-96.

No. 24—S. Johnson. 47—A. H. Allen. 54—J. J. Cameron. 82—John H. Clegg 143—Nathan Bolton. 195—W. T. Vanstone. 236—Stewart Wilson, for three years. 316—Alex. G. C. Wilkie. 323—John Conn. 410—John P. Dunning. 414—Arch. Campbell.

SUSPENSIONS FOR N. P. D., 1895-96.

No. 3—J. H. Taylor, E. F. McVetv, Jno. McLaurin, J. R. Taylor, A. Waldie, J. W. Boakes. 5—D. J. D. Campbell, R. G. Hewey, J. W. Garrett, J. B. Saunders. 6—Jas. Garland, T. Marsden, W. M. Goodwin. D. Fitzgerald, J. S. Pearson, D. Duncan, J. Fraser, G. C. Secord. 7—W. R. Hill. 14 P. M. Sinclair,

Fred. W. Weeks. 15—Thos. E. Dudley. 21a—Chas. Orton, J. P. Cass, J. Lighthall, A. Gouldie, P. P. McLaurin, P. McKercher. 25—Geo. W. King. 26—J. P. Maynard, F. Wilson, F. E. Vincent, Wm. Andrew, John Thompson, J. McG. Young, H. B. Hall. 27—R. Haigh, J. E. Hampson, John Poole, W. J. Gilmore, J. B. Pilkey. 28—C. Scobie, E. R. Hanlon. 29—John Burr, R. J. Hewitt, Wm. Martin. 35—Peter Doyle. 38—G. W. Ostrom, L. Cruickshanks, G. T. Neun, J. E. Baker, C. Foster, Jos. B. Graham. 40—J. Baird, J. M. Byerns, J. H. Crompton, G. Edmonston, W. Faucett, A. Galloway, Wm. Martin, D. P. Wagner, H. Stephenson. 41—D. Elliott, L. Malott, A. H. Scratch, C. R. Wigle, Wallace Wright, Wm. Wright, J. S. Patton, L. Case, T. Jenner, Wm. Valentine, C. Elliott, W. E. Cascadden, C. H. Tofflemin, John A. Maycock, Geo. Elliott. 42—B. Cottam, Thos. McLeod, H. Pope, J. E. Buyers. 43—W. A. Dorrington, W. C. Burt, Chas. Ottan. 44—G. W. Countryman, E. C. Byam, W. A. Atkinson, J. Smith, W. B. Doherty, G. Cardno, H. H. Hunt. 45—J. Findlay, S. M. Fry, E. D. Henwood, H. Parr, B. Puschinsky, A. E. Raymond, C. Tufford, A. B. G. Tisdale, A. S. Watson, R. E. Wallace, J. W. Tomlinson, L. Libiato. 46—J. J. Booth, O. Barkenvitz, F. T. Dudley, J. C. Laurence, Wm. Young, Jos. E. Peers, B. Rothwell, W. Coughlin, E. C. Lewis, W. D. Graham, Frank McKindsey. 48—M. Powell, S. L. Golding, E. W. Sulivan, C. N. Caverly, Wm. Johnson, H. Price, S. A. Chambers, Geo. A. Bartlett, D. A. Clark. 52—Jas. Carter, J. Cameron, E. E. Hawkins, Wm. McGlyn, W. W. Quicke, D. Ring, Thos. Walklate, W. H. Easton. 57—John Neil, Wm. Powell, Ry. Railston, Thos. Railston, N. Awrey R. Bell, E. J Duffey, R. S. Smith, Thos. Edwards, Thos. Wilson. 58—W. H. Castile, Jno. Cawthray, J. Erratt. R. Greenshields, J. Hardy, G. B. Latour, W. H. Lawrie, R. J. McGilton. 61—W. R Fish, T. W. Forster, T. R. Honeycombe, F. W. King, R. W. Millward, Wm. McVittie, J. W. Ripley, J. McB. Reid, W. H. Thompson, L. H. Willard, John H. Winn, James J. Wilson, J. W. Kievell, Geo. Johnson. 62—R. W. Mutchmor. 64—J. S. Nesbitt, D. J. Cowan T. F. Cowan, Jas. Cowan, W. Halle, R. E. Scarlett. 65—Hy. Dennis. 75—W. Fields, Jos. Dilworth, Jas. Noble, C. C. Peters, F. B. Lockwood, R. H Ramsay. 78—H. N. Bain. 81—T. Bateman, W. Campbell, N. Fletcher, A. L. Campbell, H. Lamont, D. Lamont, W. H. Smith. 82—Chris Edell. 83—D. McLean, B. F. Stevens, Wm. Hardy. 84—Jas. Ross, Jas. Thompson, Jas. Livingstone, Chas. Brown, Wm. Watson, W. J. O. Malloch, F. Allcock, Thos. Patterson. 85—M. Halladay, F. F. Briston. 86—C. Aldridge, G. E. Edgell, J. G. Hawarth, E. J. Lomnitz, Owen Mead, C. Reeve, J. S. White. 87—J. Speight, J. Ruebottom. 90—R. Burdett, R. O. Hunter, M. J. Pomphry. 91—D. M. Christie, H. Hicks. 93—Geo. Bissett, W. J. Evens, Geo. Sturgeon, Alex. Watt. 96—C. L. Sanders, Fred. J. Brown. 97—S. C. Soules, A. Borngasser, J. Boak, J. J. McDonald, W. S. Sloane. 100—G. Thompson, J. O. Rooke, H. Fairgrieve, Hy. Marshall. 103—R. Foster, R. W. Laurie, H. Lawder, P. Secord, A. Wherry, M. W. Tufford, T. Sanderson. 104—W. M. Hersee, D. G. Adair. 105—J. M. Jones, H. B. Cole, Sam. Gregory, F. DeLacey, M. H. Fielding. 108—C. H. Kennedy. 113—W. Banks, T. D Duncombe, Wm. Cunninghan, A. J. Goold, A. P. Fairchild, Geo. Doughty, Jas. Beemer, J. E. Allen, W. W. Lemon. 115—John I Comfort. 119—G. T. Daly. E. A. Rickley. 121—Alex. McLennan, Alex. McSporran, A. A. Roth. 123—Robt. Tracy, G. W. Palmer, F. M. Cobb. 125—C. W. Brownell, A. F. Milliken M. M. Mulhern. 128—R. G. Scott, J. Howarth, Geo. King, John Campbell. 129—Wm. Ireland, I. J. Hollingshead, W. R. Roche, C. M. Andrews, H. F. McLeod, J. D. Reeves, J. M. Wells, J. T. Wells, A. Robinson, C. Lutz, C. Warren. 131—D. Porter, John Johns, M. McAulay. 139—Alex. Henderson. 140—A. J. Davis. C. C Miller. 144—Robt. S. Rosberry. 151—R. O. Dobbin. 155—A. H. Dehaney, D. D. Galletly 157—W. H. Rorrison, N. Whitmarsh, W. Crozier, Jas. Connelly, J. H. Whitmarsh, M H. Sweet, E. O. Whitmarsh, J. W Jones. 162—Jno. Kaine, D N. McDonald. 165—H. Ghent. 170—R. L. Sharpe, P. Vollmer, John Murray. 174—O. Barrett, L. W. Brown, Geo. Stewart. 177—R J. McGilton. 178—E. Sauer. 180—Wm. Carter, T. A. Mason, John S. Wilson. G. Mearce, Wm. Brownlow, F. B. Skinner, J. C. Williams, F. J. Chubb. 181—Wm. H. Cudney. 184—Wm. H. Stewart. 192—Wm. Ironside, J. T. Tipping, R. H. Booth, C. J. Swartman, A. D. Rutherford, Chas. A Ross. 193—W. N. Teeter. 194—Wm. Freele, Geo. Wilson. 200—J. Rodgers, W. A. Austin, E. B. Boselly. 203—Jas. T. White. 235—J. Vance, F. W. Brook, J. F. Ratzenmeyer, O E. Pressprick, J. Walker. 239a—J. M. McClintock, F. J. Cox, J. Harris, J. S. Kester, W. B. Minhinnick, W. M. McCov, J. M. Williams. 216—M. Gray. 218—E. J. Faucett, W. C. Griffith, H. M. Williams, A. S. Staton. 220—Thos. McGrattan, Wm. Brine, John Hannah. 225—W. D. Mitchell, C. Hacking. 229—John Huxley. 231—S. W. Davies. 233—J. A. W. Johnson, Jno. Brown, A. B. Nichols 238—Jno. Moukman, J. F. Elliott, Frank Brock. 247—H. E. Sewell, S. G. T. Barton, Geo. W. Weston, O. W. Rice. 250—J. Laycock, J. W. Ferris, D. Bain. 254—Thos. Slater, R. C. Strange. 256—S. Stata, G. C. Wagner. 257—T. Wickham, Wm. Fraser. 258—J. L. Goold, A. Tait, G. W. Jones, J. R. Scarlett, Chas. A. Burden. 260—D. Trotter, M. J. Woodward, Thos. G. Jackson, E. A. Archer, G. Morgan. 261—T. M. Whiteside 262—Sam. L. Wilson. 265—Jas. McDonald, 266—S. L. Knapp. 237—Geo. Gragg, T. Greenwood. 268—C. Fair-

bairm, John Kelly. 272—Thos. F. Rodwell, Alf. Rodwell, Robt. E. Guest, Jas. H. Wilson, A. D. Robarts, Jas. Gelegen, Thos. E. Epps, Jas. Chapman, D. Hamilton. 283—John McLaren 284—Geo. Love, D. Strachan, E. E. Wade, Geo. P. Scholfield, W. B. Dickson, D. McCormack. 286—J. M. Beemer, D. F. Kincaid, E. Lainprize, D. J. Murchison. 290—S. German, Jas. Rolfson, B. E. Brush. 291—Josh. Taylor. 292—Saml. Adams. 297—Chas. Yates. 302—A. Ellison, J. Currie, H. Rushton, Robt. Rushton, Geo. B. Vail, R. M. Smith, S. Lightheart, C. F. Stein, W. J. Avey. 304—R. Breckon. 305—J. Hall, C. R. Dade. Wm. Pears, C. Sinclair. 306—M. Cochrane, A. L. McKenzie. 307—S. Sillifant. 312—G. H. McFarland, W. H. McLean, J. B. Jackson, C. E. Nightengale 313—Alex. Bell. 321—W. C. Allison, Jos. H. Perkins. 322—J. Ward, Geo. Harcourt, G. A. Ross, B. H. Carr, H. West, J. C. Forster. 323—E. L. Mott, A. McIntosh, W. D. McIntyre, J. B. Francis, Wm. Ellis, Jr., N. McIntyre, Saml. Hodges, J. W. Ryckman. 324—L. H. Patton. 327—A. Beamer, C. A. Omalley. 329—G. Secord, Geo. Henning, J. Thompson. 330—F. Ponty. 331—Alex, Irvine, A. C. McLoughlin, A. Wilson, Geo, Wilson. 333—W. H. Fisher, Thos. McGirr, Wm. J. Martin. 338—S. Cronkhite, C. E. Horton, E. Marr, Jas. Brown, R. Angle, Fred. Lint, J. Sundy, J. K. Tisdale. 339—Jno. Cook, John Fogg, J. K. Leslie, C. G. Richardson, C. M. Carnahan. 341—Neil McKenzie. 344—Chas. M. Small, Jas. H. Rouse. 345—Jas. Warden. 346—G. Fletcher, J. Hetherington, W. E. C. Meadows, J. McPhee, W. H. Smith, T. S. Webster, E. M. Gardiner. 348—Jno. Anderson. 354—W. G. Smith, J. D. Acton. 356—T. Mulrain, Wm. Sims, Jos. T. Joyce, Wm. Andrew. 358—Josh. Steinhoff. 359—H. Hazen, A. O. Wood John Lade. 361—F. B. Skinner. 377—T. J. Patton, Ira F. Beltry, F. A. Campbell, D. Bell, A. McTaggart, W. McCutcheon, A. V. Galbraith. 378—R. T. Lacey, J. Brimacombe, W. J. M. Wattam, F. Sleight. 382—S. T. Edwards. 384—H. C. Houghton, A. R. McKinley, Gus. Freidrich, R. Simpson, J. D. Towsley, W. Window. 385—John Willoughby, Geo. Wewborn. 388—George Charlton. 391—E. R. Shaw. 392—J. P. Draper, John Callan. 393—Alex. Stewart. 394—W. F. Kennedy. 396—G. L. Kitchen, T. Longheed. 400—A. W. Dodd, T. W. Wilson, Robt. W. A. Wilson, Jos. Boon. 410—C. C. Tilly, M. Wright, G. W. Grote. 412—Wm. Albon, H. N. Phillips, C. Clark. T. J. Foster, E. Snyder, J. G. White, D. McPherson, J. Irvine, C. Saunders, S. N. Berry, W. J. Smith, J. L. Baxter, C. S Lake, A. McIntyre. 414—M. McPhie, J. G. Thompson, M. McQuarrie, J. H. Benson, J. C. Gibson, J. M. McCracken. 417—Geo. Turner, H. J. Tillen, A. Cleary, E. D. Robinson, Fred. Wisdate, A. J. Morrison, Wm. Tully. 419—George A. Mitchell, John Irving, James H. McIntyre. 220—S. D. Clarke, John Mitchell, Wm. Hepburn, A. H. Beath. 424—R. J. Davidson. 425—J. D. McMilty, S. Meyers, A. W. Henderson, M. Grahaw, Wm. Blair, P. Stenton. 426—Jas. Bond. 427—W. I. Hewitt, R. T. MacEwen, W. J. Smail, Thos. Evans, D. S. Humphrey. 428—J. H. Taylor. 434—M. A. Deans.

DEATHS, 1895-96.

No. 2—H. Wordington, 14 May, '96. 3—A. Bond, 8th July, '95; G. E. Wilkinson 20th Aug., '95; H. C. Voight, 7th Jan. '96; K. N. Fenwick, 21st Jan. '96; H. J. Saunders, 8th Feb. 96. 5—H. Fitzsimmons, 6th July, '95; J. Dowsley, 28th Jan. '96. 6—H. Dalton, 4th March, '95; L. Springer, 25th November, 95; J. D. Irwin, 25th Dec. 95. 7—J. V. VanDyker, 22nd December, '95. 9—I. Abrams, 24th Jan. '95. 11—C. W. Pringle, 15th August '95; Alex. McCoy, 10th August, '95. 15—F. G. Camp, 20th November, 95; H. H. Collier, 15th July, 95; Jas. Murray, 27th August, '95; W. G. Burnett, 23rd October. '95. 16—J. D. Spence, 29th August, '94; A. C. Mountain, 16th April, '96. 17—Frank Clow, 27th October, 95. 18—A. H. Hubbs, 13th December, '95; R. R Gibson, 1st May, '96. 22—Geo. H. B. Brown, 2nd July, '95. 23—Wm. Trench, 12th April, 96. 25—T. McCracken, 26th January. '96. 26—W. J. Harness, 3rd December. 95. 27—F. R. Despard, 15th March '95; Wm. Robb, 15th April, '96. 30—Thos. Huston, 19th April, '96. 32—J. E. Croly, 3rd June, '96. 33—Chas. F. Stranbel, July, '95; Wm. Philips, 15th November, '95; H. Martin. 7th March, '96. 34—C. F. Honor, 6th January, '96. 35—J. H. Cameron, 8th April, '96. 37—P. J. Brown, 1st February. '96. 39—Calvin Campbell, 15th December, '95. 40—J. F. L. Holman, 14th September, '95; Wm. Dordon, 22nd October, '95; Geo. M. Hunt, 25th December, '95; T. G. Viner, 17th January, '96. 41—Geo. Malott, 8th February, '96. 42—Ed. Burke, 11th January, '96; Geo. McNab, 18th June '95. 43—W. H. Ray, 27th May, '95. 44—T. S. Edwards, 15th November, '95. 45—L. Scott, Geo. King. 47—Wm. Blow, 3rd October, '95; T. Perkins, 7th June, '96. 48—Jno. Caskey, 11th June, '95; John Dougan, 1st September, '95; R. J. Thompson, 29th September, '95. 52—J. W. McDonald, 15th June, '96; J. F. Ward, 2nd July, '95; D. Carmichael, 30th October, '95. 55—H. Buker, 27th July, '95. 57—Jos. Graham, 3rd November, '95. 58—J. Wickham, 15th December, '95; John Graham, 15th March, '96. 61—D. Robertson, 13th October, '95; Geo. Long, 15th April, '96. 63—Jas. Shilson, 6th March, '95; P. A. Sinclair, 8th May, '95; J. R. Raine, 26th October, '95. 64—C. W. Oke, 25th November, '95. 65—E. W. Blackhall, 3rd October, '95. 68—R. Dunlop, 12th July, '95; Hugh Kerr, 12th March, '96. 69—A. O. Lott, 9th January, '96. 72—Geo. Jeffray, —th September, '95. 75—Thos. Reed, date not

given; G. Hardy, 23rd January, '96; R. Reunil, 24th May, '96. 77—A. W. J. De Grassi, —th December, '95. 78—Jas. R. Brown, 18th October, '95; John Hutchison, 23rd December, '95. 81—A. Kellock, 17th February, '96. 83—C. Bixel, 25th June, '95; N. Smith, 27th August, '95. 85—M. A. Everts, 12th May, '95. 91—W. W. Males, 8th November, '95. 92—Geo. W. Leslie, 12th November, '95. 93—J. W. Rapley, 25th March, '96. 97—W. Webb, 27th August, '95. 100—Alex. Cowie, 4th November, '95. 103—W. E. Cavers, 13th February, '96; Thos. Keyes, 24th November, '95. 108—G. F. Williamson, 22nd January, 96. 109—B. P. Day, 12th October, '95; J. E. Watson, 17th April, '96. 110—Jno. Francis, 5th December, '95; C. H. Stentiford, 6th May, '96. 113—Jas. Warnington, no date given. 116—A. L. Neilson, 1st July '95; S. Cornell, 12th November, '95. 121—C. A. Olt, 12th July, '95; P. G. Walsh, 1st August, '95; J. Strickland, 26th November, '95. 122—E. McKay, 12th May, '96; Jas. Arnott, 18th January, '96. 123—L. H. Henderson, 18th July, '95. 131—Thos. McVittie, 26th September, '95. 133—Isaac Carling, 28th August, '95; T. Coates, 29th October, 95. 142—John F. Millar, 20th September, '95; W. H. Sherman, 1st June, '96. 147—John Lang, 19th March, '95. 151—C. P. Quirmback, 26th June, '95; F. W. Stephan, 26th July, '95. 153—Robt. Davis, 12th February, '95. 155—Robt. Pope, 1st September, 1895; A. E. Yelland, 26th February, '96. 156—F. McFarlane, 17th February, '96. 157—Jas. Anderson, 5th April, '96; E. J. Hopkins, 10th May, '96. 158—W. J. McMullen, 15th July, '95; Walter Miller, 30th March, '96. 161—Wm. Dunkin, 21st May, '95; J. Phillips, 25th April, '95. 165—S. W. Moore. 6th June, '96; Wm. Oag, 12th June, '96. 168—D. W. Horton, 18th September, '95. 169—D. Wilcox, 18th August, '95; A. Simpson, 1st June, '96. 170—John D. Sills, 26th November, '95. 174—Wm Ross, 22nd July, '95; A. A. Rhorer, 3rd September, '95; J. A. Stearns, 13th June '96. 178—Hy. Ernst, 6th December, '95. 184—K. J. McLeod, 4th February, '96. 192—P. Jackson, 9th April, '96. 194—Thos. Fletcher, 30th June, '95; T. Cochrane, 10th August, '95; A. E. Heyden, John L. Wilson, 29th June, '96; Jas. Palan, 24th May, '96; H. McKenzie 6th June, '96. 197—Jas. McBeath, 19th March, '96; J. A. Bothwell, 15th May, '96. 200—W. W. Winfield, 8th July, '95. 205—Wm. Walker, 22nd November, '94; D. E. Brooke, —th January, '96; P. Studer, 19th January, '96. 207—Alex. Glennie, 12th August, '95; Geo. Statter, 3rd December, '95. 218—E. Dyson, 22nd December, '95; D. W. Thompson, 23rd April, '96. 223—D. A. Burgnes, 16th November, '93. 225—John Livingston, 21st May, '96. 228—Arthur P. Booth, 13th January, '96. 230—J. T. Sproul, 15th November, '96. 232—Wm. Clark, —th October, '95. 234—Wm. Burnett, 11th January, '95. 238—Geo. Pethybridge, 24th January, '96; Jas. Mitchell, 22nd May, '96. 243—Geo. W. Bell, 25th July, '95; J. Berrington, 15th September, '95; J. Richardson, 25th May, '96. 245—J. A. Mayhew, 3rd September, '95; D. McNicoll 10th January, '96; M. Minshall, 9th May, '96. 247—J. D. Armstrong, —th November, '95; T. F. Blackwood, 25th May, '96. 249—H. F. Switzer, 25th December, '95. 253—R. Hewton, 11th December, '95. 254—John Lewis, 20th March, '95; H. Preston, 10th December, '95; C. W. Bunting, 13th January, '96. 261—Geo. Hallock, 7th January, '96; T. Baird, 16th February, '96. 268—Elijah Bottum, 11th July, '95; J. Smiley, —th February, '96. 270—F. Rae, 8th June, '96. 271—H. McNaughton, 1st January, '96. 274—Wm. Cameron, 23rd January, '96. 276—S. M. Smith, 31st August, '95. 278—Jas. Hamer, 25th February, '96. 282—John Boam. 17th April, '95; Geo. Dobson, 16th October, '95. 283—L. H. Henderson, 20th July, '95; John F. Defoe, 8th August. '95; R. F. Regan, 14th April, '96. 284—B. Fralick, 5th March, '96. 286—W. H. McDonald, 23rd January, '95. 290—Geo. Russell, 20th March, '96. 291—John Weir, 24th June, '96. 303—Jas. M. Henderson, —th September, '95. 304—B. C. Lantenback, 18th May, '96. 311—Thos. F. Blackwood, 25th May, '96; Wm. Whitters, 24th May, '96. 313—Sam. Reynolds, 28th October, '95. 314—R. Nokes, 13th March, '96; J. D. Striker, 9th February, '96. 316—W. H. Green, 15th March, '96; J. Ewing, 8th April, '96. 319—Aaron Hobbs, 21st December, '95. 322—A. Duncan, 28th December, '95; B. M. Simpson, 31st May, '96. 323—Thos. Cahill, 1st October, '95; A. Decou, 10th February, '96. 324—F. R. Despard, 15th March, '95; John Eastwood, —th September, '95; Alex. H. Leith, 24th January, '96. 326—W. H. P. Raymon, 7th November, '95; Wm. Mara, 14th January, '96. 327—B. Corneil, 5th February, '96; E. Davis, 19th June, '96. 329—D. T. Hind, 23rd October, '95; Wm. Ryan, 5th January, '96. 330—R. Hewson, 25th February, '95; E. R. Keys. 27th August, '95. 337—Geo. Coleman, 6th March, '96. 339—W. C. Saunders, 30th October, '95; G. H. Bailie, 31st January, '96; Jas. Redford, 7th March, '96. 341—H. McGregor, 28th September, '95; Neil McKenzie, 1st December, '95. 346—J. S. Thompson, 14th January, '96; E. J. Firman, 17th January, '96. 347—John Beattie, 6th October, '95. 361—H. C. Chase, 19th January, '96. 362—R. S. Cooper, 7th November, '95. 367—F. W. Turner, 21st April, '96. 368—John Grier, 4th July, '95. 371—Jas. Graham, 28th August, '95. 377—John Hannah, 26th October, '95. 378—E. J. Houghton, 12th December, '95. 380—Jas. Butterworth, 17th April, '95; Geo. Hampton, 14th April, '96. 382—Wm. Mulholland, 20th October, '95; H. B. Allen, 8th February, '96; Jas. Hobbs, 10th May, '96; S. L. Rubin, 18th May, '96. 384—Jas. Lowry, 2nd July, '95. 395—John Stratford, 12th November, '95. 397—David Armstrong, 12th April, '95 398—Robt. Boynton, 7th December, '95.

400—Wm. Robertson, 7th January, '96. 401—Jas. McGill, 23rd April, '96. 402—Geo. E. Fenton, 25th April, '96. 403—D. E. Brooke, 27th December, '95. 404—J. W. Fuller, 27th March, '96. 408—Frank Madill, 25th October, '95. 409—John Scott, 5th October, '95. 410—M. MacLeod, 24th July, '95; Alvin Jenks, 26th September, '95. 416—N. E. Brown, 30th March, '96. 418—Hugh Gilchrist, 7th June, '96. 423—John Jackson, 7th August, '95. 424—C. Campbell, 18th December, '95. 428—R. J. Taylor, 22nd December, '95. 429—J. M. Wallace, —th February, '96.

RESTORATIONS, 1895-96.

6.—G. S. Knox. 15—F. W. Macdonald, Thos. J. Hartley. 20—John J. Harding. 21a—Jas. Sterling. 22—J. T. Jewell. 27—Sam. Atkin. 29—John Burr. 31—Fred Rogers. 32—Jas. Nicholson. 32—Wm. Mitchell. 34—W. H. Ryall. 40—J. Kneeshaw, A. S. Henderson. 41—A. H. Scratch, D. Ryall. 44—B. Martin D. L. Wright. 46—Wm. Wilson. 47—Jas. A. Dougall, Geo. Beam. 56—Jos. Gowans. 57—N. Aurey. 61—W. J. Townsend. 68—Jas. Metcalf, J. A. McCarty. 73—W. R. Knowlton. 77—John McSweyn, A. H. Melville. 78—Rich. Clarke. 81—R. R. Woottoon. 84—J. Thompson. 86—Rich. Taylor, G. W. Telfer. 91—J. J. Campbell. 97—M. W. Vandewater, A. Borngasser. 110—L. Bramer. 112—Thos. Hague. 114—Chas. Green. 125—J. C. Alguire. 129—P. McMahon. 137—T. Randle. 139—G. K. Munro. 146—W. H. Ferrell. 151—J. R. Craig. 155—Geo. L. Mitchell. 157—Wm. Crozier, J. W. Jones. 158—Thos. Palmer. 165—W. W. Cross. 168—Rich. Toyne. 169—A. K. Scholfield, Wm. Pope. 174—Wm. Ross. 180—Wm. Brownlow. 181—D. Foster. 184—D. Waldon. 185—Wm. Young. 186—H. A. Conroy. 194—Thos. Cochrane. 197—Wm. Smythe. 203—Wm. Cowin. 209a—W. J. Lindsay, J. W. McClintook. 218—J. S. Elliott. 221—John Fenwick, H. Patrick. 223—J. Maidens, E. Williams. 228—W. H. Benjamin, Jr. 230—J. S. Reid. 231—Walter Bird, C. J. Stevenson, S. M. Davies. 233—John Brown. 238—W. J. Hanna. 247—W. P. Lyon. 253—J. A. D. Simpson. 256—W. F. Beach, C. J. Heyd. 462—John Connell. 263—J. P. Draper. 267—S. Perrin, W. E. Gallagher. 272—T. E. Epps, T. Hawkyard. 274—W. P. Williamson, A. Nelson. 283—J. H. Simpson, E. Richardson. 284—Thos. Angus, D. McCormick, F. C. Rogers, G. P. Scholfield. 289—D. McNeil. 292—Jas. Brett. 296—R. S. Ness. 302—A. McKillop, M. C. Carl, John R. Lee, Hugh Kelso, C. F. Walds. 307—E. B. White. 314—Geo. Elliott, Robt. Doherty. 316—W. Menzies. 320—A. H. D. McMillan. 322—John A. Shaw. 323—T. A. Cahill. 326—G. W. Meyer, A. P. Taylor, J. F. Lee. 330—Jas. Whittaker, Jas. A. Ross, F. McNaughton, M. D. Dawson. 332—P. Cornell. 333—T. McGirr, C. W. Morey, G. Ferguson. 338—H. A. Cook. 339—J. R. Leslie, W. Parkinson, J. Rose. 341—Neil McKenzie. 346—Sam. Jardine. 358—Rod'k McFee, H. A. Cook. 368—E. Asken, P. Perry. 376—H. O. Fuller. 377—Jas. Dickey. 380—D. Schwaitzer. 382—W. Douglas, A. V. Williams. 390—Jos. Atkinson. 391—T. M. Lawson. 392—Jas. Campbell, Jno. Callan, J. P. Draper. 373—Alex. Stewart. 394—Chris. Brock. 396—Thos. Knight. 400—John W. Bredin. 402—Geo. Benedick. 403—Jas. F. Jackson, J. B. Churchill. 405—J. H. Ryce, Thos. Cuthbert, Jas. Nidd. 419—Jas. H. McIntyre. 427—W. J. Hewitt, D. S. Humphrey, Thos. Evans.

In Memoriam.

Most Worshipful Brother

WILLIAM C. BELCHER,

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Died 23rd December, A. D. 1895.

Most Worshipful Brother

DAVID CARGILL,

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Died 13th June, A. D. 1895.

Most Worshipful Brother

GEORGE W. BLOUNT,

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Died 1st September, A. D. 1895.

In Memoriam.

Right Worshipful Brother

REV. G. W. DAME, D. D.

Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Virginia and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Died 24th December, A. D. 1895.

Right Worshipful Brother

THOMAS F. BLACKWOOD,

P. M. Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto; P. D. D. G. M. Toronto District No. 11.

Died 25th May, A. D. 1896.

Right Worshipful Brother

PETER J. BROWN,

P. M. King Hiram Lodge, No. 37, Ingersoll; P. D. D. G. M Wilson District, No. 6.

Died 1st February, A. D. 1896.

Right Worshipful Brother

FRANCIS RAE, M. D.,

P. M. Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Oshawa; P. D. D. G. M. Ontario District, No. 12.

Died 8th May, A. D. 1896.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

C. W. BUNTING,

P. M. Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls; Past Grand Senior Deacon.

Died 13th January, A. D. 1896.

Very Worshipful Brother

THOMAS PERKINS,

P. M. Great Western Lodge, No. 47, Windsor; Past Grand Junior Deacon.

Died 7th June, A. D. 1896.

Very Worshipful Brother

EDWARD BURKE,

P. M. St. George's Lodge, No. 42, London; Past Assistant Grand Organist

Died 11th January, A. D. 1896.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

HUGH KERR,

P. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 68, Ingersoll; Past Grand Pursuivant.

Died 12th March, A. D. 1896.

Very Worshipful Brother

WALTER MILLER,

P. M. Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, Oil Springs; Past Grand Steward.

Died 30th March, A. D. 1896.

Very Worshipful Brother

RICHARD NOKES,

P. M. Blair Lodge, No. 314, Palmerston; Past Grand Steward.

Died 12th March, A. D. 1869.

In Memoriam.

Very Worshipful Brother

ARNOLD P. BOOTH,

P. M. Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa; Past Grand Steward.

Died 13th January, A. D. 1896.

Very Worshipful Brother

D. T. HIND,

P. M. King Solomon Lodge, No. 329, Jarvis; Past Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Died 23rd October, A. D. 1895.

Very Worshipful Brother

THOMAS McCRAKEN,

P. M. St. John's Lodge, No. 40, Hamilton; Past Assistant Grand Secretary.

Died 26th January, A. D. 1896.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1896-97.

THE GRAND MASTER.

M. W. Bro. William Gibson, M. P. ..... Beamsville.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

R. W. Bro E. T. Malone ..... Toronto.

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro.	W. R. Hickey	Bothwell	Erie	District No.	1
"	B. F. George	Point Edward	St. Clair	"	2
"	W. G. McMillen	London	London	"	3
"	John W. Shaw, M. D.	Clinton	South Huron	"	4
"	J. S. Tennant, M. D.	Lucknow	North Huron	"	5
"	Thos. Allshire	Ratho	Wilson	"	6
"	A. J. Oliver	Galt	Wellington	"	7
"	J. G. Liddell	Brantford	Hamilton	"	8
"	Robert McKnight	Owen Sound	Georgian	"	9
"	Samuel Amsden	Dunnville	Niagara	"	10
"	Aubrey White	Toronto	Toronto	"	11
"	Andrew M. Ross	Whitby	Ontario	"	12
"	Henry Pringle	Belleville	Prince Edward	"	13
"	Geo. A. Aylesworth	Newburgh	Frontenac	"	14
"	D. A. Macdonell	Iroquois	St. Lawrence	"	15
"	E. D. Parlow	Ottawa	Ottawa	"	16
"	R. A. Mather	Keewatin	Algoma	"	17
"	John H. Knifton	Parry Sound	Nipissing	"	18

THE GRAND WARDENS.

R. W. Bro. A. McGinnis ..... Belleville.
" A. B. Greer ..... London.

THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

R. W. Bro. Rev. W. T. Wilkins ..... Trenton

THE GRAND TREASURER.

M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray ..... Hamilton.

THE GRAND REGISTRAR.

R. W. Bro J. H. Hetherington ..... Toronto.

THE GRAND SECRETARY.

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That in the opinion of Grand Lodge the method of nomination for office, form of ballot, and conducting the ballot, should be altered, and that it be referred to a committee consisting of M. W. Bros. J. M. Gibson, Hugh Murray and J. Ross Robertson, and W. Bros. Dowd and Barwick, to report at the next annual communication what changes it is advisable to make in the Constitution in that regard. *Lost* 230
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That the Board of General Purposes be instructed to present to Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication an estimate of the cost of printing 500 copies of the annual report of Grand Lodge for such years as said reports may be out of print. *Lost*..... 235
That the members of The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, be permitted to wear in lodge as a Masonic jewel a medal designed and made for that lodge in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the lodge... 235
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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1896.

Report on Correspondence.

HENRY ROBERTSON, P. G. M., *Chairman.*

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Correspondence beg to present their annual report. We have endeavored to give an epitome of the state of the Craft in other jurisdictions ; and to show what the Masonic Fraternity have accomplished during the past year, what they propose to do, and the prospects for the future.

A careful perusal of this report will, we believe, enable our officers and members to be better qualified for the performance of their duties as officers and Masons, to inspire them with renewed zeal and energy ; and to make themselves more fully acquainted with the numerous phases of the institution, the solidity of its doctrines, and the exceeding beauty of its tenets and professions.

Some of the principal subjects of discussion at present may be briefly summarized as follows :

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.—The practice of the appointment of Representatives to and from Grand Lodges has been abolished in the jurisdictions of Iowa, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Washington and Wyoming. This practice dates back over one hundred years. In 1779 "the Grand Lodge of Germany having applied for leave to send a representative to the Grand Lodge of England, in order more effectually to cement the union and friendship of the brethren of both countries, brother John Leonardi was appointed to that office. The request being complied with, a resolution passed, that in compliment to the Grand Lodge of Germany brother Leonardi should wear the clothing of a Grand officer and rank next to Past Grand Officers in all the public meetings of the Society."

In 1799 the Baron de Silverhjelm was received by the Grand Lodge of England as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Sweden, and accorded a seat with the Grand Officers at all meetings of the Grand Lodge.

"At the Grand Lodge in February, 1802, the Earl of Moira stated to the brethren that the lodges in Berlin, under the auspices of the King of Prussia, had solicited the influence of the Duke of Sussex to

carry on a friendly communication with the Grand Lodge of England, and had expressed a readiness on their part, as far as it was consistent with the duty they owed to their own Masonic jurisdiction, to act in unison with their brethren in England, in promoting all the general principles of the institution, and in extending relief to distressed Masons; on which it was immediately resolved, that a friendly communication should be kept up with our brethren in Prussia and every attention paid to their future recommendations."

"At the Grand Lodge in May following, another application was made through the same channel, from four lodges in Portugal, which had empowered M. Hypolite da Costa to act as their representative in the Grand Lodge of England, and in their name to solicit a regular authority to practice the rites of the Order under the English banner and protection. After mature deliberation it was determined that every encouragement should be given to the brethren in Portugal, and a treaty was immediately entered into and signed by brothers Da Costa and Heseltine, then Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, and approved by the Grand Master, whereby it was agreed that as long as the Portuguese lodges should conform to the ancient constitutions of the Order, they should be empowered to have a representative in the Grand Lodge of England, and that the Grand Lodge of England should have a representative in the Grand Lodge of Portugal, and that the brethren belonging to each Grand Lodge should be equally entitled to the privileges of the other."

Masonic Homes.—In several jurisdictions, special funds have been set apart for the purpose of establishing Masonic Homes, and in other places plans are under consideration for their erection. The object in view is truly praiseworthy and deserving of all encouragement. In order, however, that the undertaking should be a perfect success, a sufficient sum should be raised as an endowment fund, to pay the yearly expenses of maintaining the Home, without unduly taxing the brethren for its support, or preventing them from extending aid to the needy and deserving ones who would not or could not become inmates of a public institution.

Perpetual Jurisdiction.—The rules proposed for general adoption by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi as to jurisdiction over candidates, have been generally disapproved, most of the Grand Lodges preferring their own regulations. The tendency is decidedly in favor of the rule, that after a man has resided in the jurisdiction of a lodge for one year and is then found worthy, the lodge may receive him, notwithstanding any previous rejection in another jurisdiction.

Discipline for Non-Payment of Dues.—Some lodges have no dues, so that the non-payment of dues is a violation of a strictly local lodge regulation, and it should not be placed in the same category as an offence against the moral law, nor should it be punished with the same severity. Some writers treat the non-payment of dues as a Masonic crime, in which they are in error, as a Masonic crime is something, the gravity of which admits of no discussion.

Relief.—It has been generally affirmed, that relief to transient brethren in distress is a fraternal duty, and should be performed irrespective of any view of reimbursement from the lodge or Grand Lodge from which the brother hails; although the reimbursement is also a fraternal duty, and should be performed in all cases if possible. The Wisconsin proposition on this subject, to make the Grand

Lodge pay in case of non-reimbursement by the brother's lodge, has been approved by only two jurisdictions—California and Connecticut.

Music.—Several jurisdictions are encouraging the use of suitable music in the ceremonies of degree work. It adds greatly to the impressiveness of the ritual as viewed from the stand-point of the candidate, and it is much more interesting to the brethren. Bro. William H. Gerrish, of Boston has compiled and published appropriate lodge music for all the degrees.

Social Features.—It is said that the old sociability of Masonic gatherings is fast disappearing in some quarters. The rush of the busy life in cities is partly responsible for this. So also is the low estimate of the institution held by brethren who have not been properly instructed in its higher principles, and who look upon Masonry more as a means to an end than as a fraternity worthy of love and respect for its own sake. By all means should the social feature be encouraged. Our craft is something more than a degree-conferring machine. After the actual work of the lodge is over, opportunity should always be given for fraternal intercourse, to make the members better acquainted with one another, and to realize that we are really a brotherhood, having a common aim, and desirous of perpetuating true friendship.

ALABAMA.

75th Communication, Montgomery, Dec. 3, 1895.

James A. Bilbro, D. G. M., presiding.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

Several amendments to the Constitution were proposed, but none of them secured the required two-thirds vote. Among them was a proposal to increase the dues from fifty cents to one dollar, the half being for a Masonic Home.

The Grand Master, George P. Harrison, arrived on the second morning and delivered his annual address, in which he says that everything Masonic is peaceful and prosperous. They are growing both in numbers and good works, and the moral standard is being elevated.

He issued dispensations for five new lodges.

He decided that having illicit intercourse with a Master Mason's daughter, who is without chastity, is a violation of the Masonic obligation. The committee on jurisprudence reported against this decision, arguing that while such act might be a Masonic offence, it was not a violation of that particular portion of the obligation referred to; but the Grand Lodge sustained the Grand Master. Correct.

The Grand Secretary visited a number of lodges and finds that at no time has there been greater zeal and enthusiasm among the Craft than at present.

The following resolution and report were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That R. W. Bro. Wm. H. Dingley be authorized to continue the work of assorting and classifying the old records in the Grand Lodge Library room, and preparing a complete Masonic Register of this Grand Lodge, and that the sum of four hundred and fifty ($450.00) be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be paid to him as compensation for said services.

"Your Committee further recommend that the Grand Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized to keep on deposit in the Bank of Montgomery, of the general fund of this Grand Lodge a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars at any one time, for the payment by check of appropriations and expenses authorized by this Grand Lodge."

A number of gavels, made by the students of the Mechanic Arts Department of the A. & M. College, were presented to the members of the Grand Lodge.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Palmer J. Pillans. In his introduction we find the following remarks on the uniformity of work:

"There has, however, come to the front a question which we, with some others, deem of vital importance to the welfare of the Order. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, venerable though she be, after great labor in perfecting her rituals, for the preservation of 'uniformity of work' within her jurisdiction, has reduced the same to paper in cipher. The result was to have been anticipated. There are now very many copies of this authorized work, in and around Boston, the original having been unwarrantably used for gain. After investigation the two brethren implicated were expelled, and the use of any cipher made a Masonic offence. Would it not, however, have been infinitely better to have locked the stable before the horse was stolen? These copies of the ritual are still in existence, and they contain what had been declared by Grand Lodge to be the true and proper work. But whence does this or any other Grand Lodge derive its power to reduce the ritual to cipher? is a question which should recur to every Mason, even the youngest E. A., though still in the N. E. corner.

"We indeed have always thought that we were bound under no circumstances to write out the work, lest by any accident in so doing we discover it to others. At least we were surely so taught at the very threshold of Masonry. This injunction was oftentimes re-iterated in the several Degrees we took, lest we should be guilty, even inadvertently, of this heinous offence. But now we see Grand Lodges authorizing this thing. Whence is this power of a Grand Lodge derived? It is claimed for these bodies that they have the consciences of the brethren within their keeping? Can they absolve the brethren? If so, whence their power? We are unfortunately, perhaps, of those who deny such powers to Grand Lodges. We think these bodies should themselves do nothing subversive of the ancient requirements of Masonry, while they at the same time demand this of their subordinates.

"Secrecy and circumspection was our first and fundamental instruction, and frequently were we reminded of them, so that we became to esteem them; more particularly secrecy, as fundamental landmarks of the Order. Is secrecy not? Then who has the power

to do anything that might by any possibility, and under any circumstances, enable others to know any portion of the esoteric work? 'It is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in Masonry.' But is not this putting this arcana of Masonry within the reach of the profane an innovation in the body of Masonry?"

Lodges, 383; members, 10.225.
George F. Harrison (Opelika), G. M.
Henry C. Armstrong (Montgomery), G. S.

ARIZONA.

14th Communication, Prescott, Nov. 12, 1895.
Rickmer N. Fredericks, G. M.
The "At Home" part of his address is as follows:

"The past year has been a prosperous one for nearly every section of Arizona. The building of railroads has brought us in closer touch than ever before; the stage-coach and buck-board have in some localities become almost obsolete; a few hours ride behind the iron steed will now bring us to our destination, whereas in former years, it took several days to make the same journey. The capitalist is not as shy to invest in Arizona as in years gone by; we see him in the mountains furnishing the necessary funds to carry on mining; again we find him in the valleys engaged in water storage, horticultural and agricultural pursuits. New blood is being infused into our various enterprises; the hardy emigrant has turned his face to the southwest, and unless all signs fail, we are actively engaged in building a large and prosperous State.

"The prosperity of our lodges keeps pace with that of the Territory; no complaints of financial reverses have been made, but the net loss of membership for the past year, according to the Grand Secretary's report, is nine.

"It has been my good fortune to visit officially during the year every subordinate lodge within our Grand Jurisdiction. My travels were quite often over a rough and rugged road, but upon reaching the object point of my journey, I was in every instance well repaid for the fatigue of travel, by the kind and considerate attention of our craftsmen throughout the Territory."

On the Wisconsin Relief proposal the following was adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Arizona, for itself and its constituent lodges, believes that it is the duty of each lodge of Masons to take care of its own members and their widows and orphans in distress wherever they may be; *provided*, that the lodge furnishing relief shall in no case go beyond actual necessaries without first being authorized to do so by the lodge from which payment is expected."

Everything passed off harmoniously, the local business was transacted promptly and satisfactorily, and there were no appeals or grievances.

Lodges, 11 ; members, 503 ; decrease, 9.
Artemus L. Grow (Tombstone), G. M
George. J. Roskruge (Tucson), G. S.

ARKANSAS.

56th Communication, Little Rock, Nov. 19, 1895.
N. P. Richmond, G. M.

The past year has been one of more than ordinary business and financial prostration and the Masonic Fraternity has felt the full force of this unfortunate state of affairs. The Grand Master thinks that the ballot box is not guarded now with the same jealous care that it was in the days of our fathers. He opened three new lodges.

The following resolutions were adopted :

"*Resolved*, That each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be and is required to remit to the Grand Secretary during each fiscal year $2 for every initiation, $1 for every passing and $1 for every raising. The Grand Secretary shall pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer, who shall hold the same subject to the orders of the Board of Control of the Temple; provided, no part of said money shall be used except as a fund to pay the Temple debt.

"*Resolved further*, That the resolution of this Grand Lodge passed at the last session requiring the payment of $10 for the first initiation for Temple debt, be and the same is hereby repealed."

"*Resolved*, That where a lodge has remitted the $10 for the first initiation and the candidate is yet to be passed and raised, that such lodge shall be exempted from the additional fees for passing and raising, assessed at this meeting, on that particular candidate."

Our lodge at Jerusalem was heard from in an interesting manner, as the following extract will show.

"Bro. B. F. Atkinson, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, on behalf of Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, of Jerusalem, presented to the Grand Lodge three gavels made in Jerusalem from olive wood cut from the Mount of Olives. These gavels had been confided to him by Bro. Kyatt, Master of Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, for presentation to this Grand Lodge during a visit made by Bro. Atkinson to Jerusalem and other places in the far East. Bro. Atkinson gave a most interesting account of matters Masonic as found by him in those distant regions, and of the fraternal and hospitable reception accorded him and the members of his party by Bro. Kyatt and other members of the fraternity in Jerusalem—that Mecca of all Masonic pilgrims—as well as elsewhere."

The gavels were received by the oldest Past Grand Master with appropriate remarks, and thanks were voted to the lodge and to Bro. Atkinson.

Bro. Sam. H. Davidson reviews the Proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges. He says that the address of Grand Master

White in 1895 was a thoughtful effort full of good sound sense and good suggestions.

Lodges, 429; members, 13,421.

A. G. Washburn (Waldron), G. M.

Fay Hempstead (Little Rock), G. S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

24th Communication, Vancouver, June 20, 1895.

Robert M. McMicking, G. M.

He has the following remarks on the growth of the Craft in this far distant Province:

"The growth of the Craft, as a whole, has been satisfactory, being an average increase of about ten per cent., and notwithstanding the continued financial depression, which has so paralyzed general business pursuits, here as elsewhere, it is pleasing to learn—and, indeed, it was quite a surprise to me to discover—that the revenue from all sources exceeded in amount that of the year previous.

"While we note with satisfaction these evidences of substantial material progress, I feel warranted in believing, also, that there have come to many at the same time, clearer conceptions of the aim and intent of Freemasonry, a condition at once so desirable, as it guarantees to us the highest good by fostering the development of the nobler instincts of our being. Not a stone, so far as I am aware, has gone into the structure during the year bearing evidences of weakness in itself, or such as is likely to impair the whole."

A new lodge was opened at Kaslo.

The committee on the address reported that the time is not yet ripe for undertaking the establishment of a Masonic Home, and that the charity dispensed by the lodges has, so far, met the needs of the jurisdiction in this particular. The incoming Grand Master and Grand Wardens were appointed as a committee to consider the matter of a Masonic Home and report next year.

The committee on Correspondence, Marcus Wolfe, chairman, reported that they were still unable to make any recommendation towards the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Hayti.

Canada for 1894 receives due notice.

On "perpetual jurisdiction" Bro. Wolfe says:

"The stand taken as to perpetual jurisdiction is fast losing ground, and very properly so. If lodges adopted the proper, cautious steps when dealing with an applicant, there can be no harm done,—it is the indifferent and careless work of 'Investigating Committees' that should be looked after."

With reference to the non-uniformity in the ritual, Bro. Wolfe explained that owing to lodges working under several rites before the formation of the Grand Lodge of British Co-

lumbia, and each lodge being wedded to its particular work, it was deemed expedient to allow same to continue, but not to al ow any other work than the three then in use.

Lodges, 21; members, 1269; increase, 193.

Lacey R. Johnson (Vancouver), G. M.

W. J. Quinlan (Victoria), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

46th Communication, San Francisco, Oct. 8, 1895.

James B. Stevens, G. M.

He reports 2,522 degrees conferred and a net gain in membership of 391. Harmony everywhere prevails.

The Grand Lecturer presented an elaborate report, giving full details. His visits were principally to the outlying districts, and he preferred holding lodges of instruction rather than having a degree conferred. He recommends as follows:

"Pay a salary amounting to enough to justify a Grand Lecturer devoting his entire time to the work, which would give him on an average, say ten days to each district (some districts will require more, some less), but make it his duty to visit every district and stay until the Inspector is perfect and give the officers of the lodges, who are accessible, as much general instruction as possible. I would furthermore recommend that each Inspector select the Master or some Past Master of each lodge, who will perfect himself in the entire work and appoint him an authority on the work in that particular Lodge, for the convenient reference of its officers, subject, of course, to the correction of said Inspector. These Past Masters could sit with the Grand Lecturer and Inspector during the former's visit to the district.

"I believe that with this system in effect for a period of two years, more will be accomplished than the present plan will yield in ten. I might, with profit to the Craft, have spent weeks where I was only able to spend days. If the work is once firmly planted in each district it is likely the present system can again be resumed. It is apparent that this Grand Jurisdiction has been growing more rapidly than some of us realize, and while the present plan may have been ample for the needs of several years ago, it certainly is inadequate now, particularly considering the tremendous area of the State."

The trustees of the Masonic Home presented their fourth annual report. They are now ready for the actual work of constructing the Home and appeal for further contributions to ensure the speedy completion of the buildings.

On the application of the Grand Lodge of Victoria for recognition, the following report was adopted:

"It has been the settled policy of this Grand Lodge in reference to new Grand Lodges to ascertain what was the condition of Masonry in the territory over which the new Grand Lodge claims jurisdiction; how may lodges there were there and under what obedience they held; how many of them joined in the establishment of the new

Grand Lodge, and, if less than all joined, under what obedience those not joining hold; whether the new Grand Lodge has been recognized by the Grand Lodges by which its constituents were originally chartered; what proceedings were had and taken at the convention looking to its organization, and what claim of jurisdiction it makes, and also a copy of its constitution. In regard to these matters we have no information.

"We therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary be requested to ask that Grand Lodge furnish us with the necessary information as above set forth. With the hope that that information will be furnished, we recommend that no further action be taken at this time."

A prosposal to increase the salary of Grand Lecturer from $500 to $1200 was negatived.

It was decided that the Grand Master should not have allowed lodges to appear in public clothed as Masons for the purpose of attending divine service. With this decision we are heartily in accord, as it is too often the case that such permission is sought solely for the purpose of display.

On the subject of life membership, the following report is well worthy of careful attention:

"Bro. Charles E. Stone offers the following resolution:—

"'*Resolved*, That life-memberships may be granted by subordinate 'lodges as follows: Where the dues are not in excess of six dollars 'per annum, the sum to be paid for a life-membership shall be ninety 'dollars; and where the dues are in excess of six dollars per annum, 'the sum to be paid shall be one hundred and eighty dollars. Said 'amounts shall be deposited by the lodge in savings bank, or invested 'in bonds or other interest paying securities.'

"The question of life-membership has been before the Grand Lodge for several years past and seems to be a difficult one to settle. The committee on jurisprudence in 1888 used the following language: 'If there be any good plan at all in regard to life-membership, it would be to grant such exemption only upon payment of a sum of money which the lodge shall judge to be at least a fair equivalent for its monthly dues; and that the money so received should in all cases be securely invested as a distinct fund, of which only the income should be used for current or even extraordinary expenses. That fund should stand in the place of the member himself for the payment of dues. If extraordinary expense is at any time incurred, it should be met by an increase of the dues of the members of the lodge, and a life member should no more be exempt from such an increase than one who had maintained his standing by the monthly payment of his dues'

"The Grand Master, in his address in 1889, advised legislation on this subject. The Grand Secretary mentioned it in his report in 1891 under the head of unfinished business. The Grand Master, in his address of last year, again calls attention to the matter and suggested its reference to the committee on jurisprudence. Said committee reported as follows: 'This is one of the subjects presented in the Grand Master's address, and one to which the committee have given attention during the year, but have been unable to devise a plan satisfactory to themselves. They are agreed that the

amount to be paid for such membership should be a full equivalent for dues, and that all sums paid in for that purpose should be paid into and constitute a special fund to be securely invested in interest paying funds or property, and that no lodge shall be permitted to draw upon the principal of that fund for any purpose, except for investment. But the questions undetermined are: 1. What shall be the minimum sum to be received for such membership; and 2. How can it be so invested as to make it a perpetual fund, the interest or income from which only can be used by the lodge. We ask that the subject be referred to our successors for further consideration.'

"That the Grand Lodge may fully understand the status of this question, is our excuse for alluding to the matter in detail. Your present committee is hardly in sympathy with life-membership on any plan. We believe that in a general way it will not prove conducive to the welfare of a lodge. On the other hand, we feel as much at a loss to suggest a satisfactory plan as did our predecessors. The plan suggested by Bro. Stone is not free from objection. A lodge might conveniently find excuse for changing its dues to take advantage of the minimum sum for life-membership.

"Your committee recommend that the resolution be not adopted."

Bro. William A. Davies presented an able review of the proceedings of all the American Grand Lodges and 12 foreign Grand bodies. He deprecates the use of ciphers, both on account of the loose method of their dissemination and the much more careless methods of the individual recipient. He is not in favor of dual membership; but we see no harm in it here. He thinks that the cultivation of the social features in our lodge meetings is the most effective medicine for the evil of non-attendance, and in his notice of Montana, he has the following remarks on the same subject:

"Bro. Hedges says he has become a convert to the California regulation prohibiting banqueting at the expense of lodge funds. All right, Bro. H., but your statement is not fully the case before our Grand Lodge. There has been for years a growing sentiment in favor of a relaxation of our 'no refreshment rule'—not a desire to cast aside all restraints and turn our lodges into clubs of intemperate revelers, but to cultivate more generally the social intercourse of members, and, by that means, make lodge meetings more like what they were intended to be—social gatherings for the exchange of thought and pleasant converse upon matters concerniug the welfare of the lodge and its members. Many eminent brethren argue that by a small outlay, judiciously applied, the increase of interest manifested in lodge work and welfare will be demonstrated, and it will be clearly shown that practical refreshment is as essential to lodge prosperity as good work during the hours of labor. There is a happy medium in all these matters which should bring about the desired remedy. The 'no refreshment rule," in its radical form, is the result of the abuse of one of the most attractive features of Masonic communion, founded on ancient custom and the practice of the time honored text, 'Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.'

"As a reminder of this ancient custom, we shall carry with us to the grave a recollection of a visit made to Tuolumne Lodge in the

year 1852. The lodge-room had been destroyed by fire in the month of June of that year, and the lodge was holding forth temporarily in rooms fitted up for the purpose in the Eagle Hotel, in the city of Sonora. At the stated meeting in August of that year we applied for the privilege of visitation and found a lodge of forty Masons assembled, presided over by Bro. Charles M. Radcliffe, Master, and, at the time, Grand Master; Bro. William W. Traylor was Senior Warden. It being a regular meeting, no work was in order. Upon the completion of the business, principally referring to the building of a new lodge hall, the lodge was called to refreshment, and, at the request of the Master, gathered around a table in the ante-room. There was a spread of cold meats, bread and cheese, sandwiches and coffee. No set speeches were allowed, but an informal conversation was indulged in for nearly an hour, principally in reference to the new hall. The Tyler was an English sailor, known as 'Uncle John.' At the proper time Bro. Radcliffe rapped and called the Tyler, making, on behalf of the brethren, a request for a song. Unlike professionals, Uncle John did not excuse himself, but cleared his throat and responded with a rollicking song and chorus. I remember his commencment, as he rolled out with his clear voice:—

'When Adam ruled the world by an order from the Grand,
And with his beauteous spouse traversed Eden's happy land,
To build a bower, to spend an hour, to shield them from the weather evil,
And his worship plan'd it out with his square, gauge, plumb and level.
Whack row de dow, de dow, whack row de dow.'

"The song over, Bro. Radcliffe remarked: 'Brethren, our charity fund is not as strong as it might be, and perhaps this is a good time to nourish it a bit. Bro. Treasurer, place a hat upon the table and take charge of the offering.' The Treasurer, Bro. Charles F. Dodge, reported the collection of $92.50. The brethren returned to the lodge room and closed.

"That meeting has always lingered in my memory as an illustration of the good fellowship characteristic of the true and loyal Free and Accepted Mason. I need hardly add that the friendships born of that meeting forty three-years ago were severed only by the deaths of Past Grand Masters Radcliff and Traylor a few years since."

Under the heading of "Ontario," the Grand Lodge of Canada (for 1894), appears in an unaccustomed position away down in the alphabetical arrangement. We may however get used to it in time. Bro. Davies concludes that we may well be proud of our system of supervision of the lodges through the District Deputies, which he thinks is carried out more effectually than any that has come under his observation.

Lodges, 260; members, 17,431; increase, 391.

Edward M. Preston (Nevada City), G. M.

George Johnson (San Francisco), G. S.

COLORADO.

35th Communication, Denver, Sept. 17, 1895.

William L. Bush, G. M.

He disapproved of by-laws providing for life membership, declaring all in arrears for dues for one year ineligible for office, and exempting ministers from dues. Correct.

Three new lodges were opened.

The following resolution was adopted :

"*Whereas*, There are business organizations operating within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge under various titles, but claiming to be Masonic in character, such as 'The ——— Masonic Benefit Association,' 'The ——— Masonic Accident Association,' 'The Mason's Fraternal Accident Association,' 'Masonic Restaurant,' and others of like character ;

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge hereby notify the Masons within its jurisdiction that all such organizations, corporations or societies are using the word 'Masonic' in their titles without any right whatever, so far as this Grand Lodge is concerned, and that we deprecate the use of the term in a business connection as wrong and unmasonic."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf. Canada for 1894 has a good notice.

Lodges, 87 ; members, 7,023 ; increase, 206.

William D. Pierce (Denver), G. M.

Ed. C. Parmelee (Denver), G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

108th Communication, Hartford, January 15, 1896.

Henry O. Warner, G. M.

The lodges generally are in a healthy condition, and more than the average work has been done.

A special committee was appointed to report at next session upon the expediency, cost and advisability of preparing an alphabetical register of all the members.

The following report of the committee on Jurisprudence was adopted :

"In the matter of Warren Lodge, No. 51, Portland, your committee find that A. B. applied for the degrees to Warren Lodge, No. 51, and was rejected. He afterwards applied to a lodge in Scotland and there received the degrees, and the question arises as to his Masonic status. Your committee report their opinion as follows :

"1st. That A. B. having been made a Mason in a regular lodge is a regular Mason.

"2nd. That if he took the degrees with a knowledge of the Masonic law of Connecticut, for the purpose of evading that law, he is subject to trial by Warren Lodge for surreptitiously obtaining the degrees of Masonry.

"3rd. That the right of visiting any lodge rests upon unanimous consent of the members present."

Jewels were ordered for the Past Grand Masters similar to those worn by the officers of the Grand Lodge.

By the adoption of the following resolutions, the Grand Lodge assumed the expense of maintaining their Masonic Home :

"*Resolved*, That there be required to be paid to the Grand Lodge from each lodge in the jurisdiction the sum of one dollar for each member upon its roll of membership.

"*Resolved*, That in estimating their membership all members may be deducted who have been Masons for thirty years, also those whose whereabouts are unknown for five years previous.

"*Resolved*, That twenty-five per cent. of amount received be appropriated for defraying the expenses of the Grand Lodge, and seventy-five per cent. be appropriated for the purpose of the Masonic Charity Foundation Fund of Connecticut."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence. He incidentally informs us that in Connecticut, a Mason of thirty years standing is exempt from the payment of lodge dues. Georgia requires that a brother must be 70 years of age and a Mason for twenty years.

It is the custom in Connecticut for the Senior Warden to appoint the Junior Deacon.

Canada for 1895 receives favorable mention.

Lodges, 111 ; members, 16,632 ; increase, 346.

James H. Welsh (Danbury), G. M.

John H. Barlow (Hartford), G. S.

DELAWARE.

89th Communication, Wilmington, Oct. 2, 1895.

Virginius V. Harrison, G. M.

He visited every lodge in the jurisdiction and exemplified the uniform work, which is now adopted by most of the lodges. On the appointment of Representatives he says :

"I have followed this course because the precedent was established and not because I am in sympathy with the system ; had I consulted my own feelings in the matter, I should have made no appointments nor acknowledged any from other jurisdictions.

"The system as far as I am able to judge, is of no practical value, a mere matter of form, adding to the labors of the secretaries and to the expense of Grand Lodge, without a corresponding return.

"In all my experience I have not known a Representative to perform any duty, and indeed I do not know that there is any duty imposed upon them, therefore, to my mind the system seems to have no excuse for existence.

"But as I did not by own act wish to deprive my successor of any pleasure that might be derived from catering to the vanity of some brother by appointing him to one of these positions of empty honor, I leave the matter in your hands to continue or abolish it."

His opinion as to the incorporation of lodges suits us exactly :

"From Hiram Lodge, No. 21, and Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, I received communications asking my advice as to re-incorporation.

"To both of which I replied, that for a Masonic lodge to be incorporated was both unnecessary and dangerous.

"An incorporated lodge becomes subject to the surveilance of the courts of law, from which an unincorporated lodge escapes. Thus, a Mason expelled by an unincorporated lodge must look for redress to the Grand Lodge alone. But if the lodge be incorporated, he may apply to the courts of law for a restoration of his franchise as a member. Masonic discipline would thereby be seriously affected.

"To my mind very good reasons exist why a Masonic lodge should not be incorporated.

"It is not necessary to be incorporated to hold and control property. That can be done through a board of trustees."

In accordance with this opinion, it was resolved "that it shall be unlawful for any lodge in this jurisdiction to become incorporated."

It was also resolved that "it shall be unlawful for any lodge in this jurisdiction to charge a fee for affiliation."

The Wisconsin relief proposition was not adopted.

On the subject of intemperance the following resolutions were carried:

"*Resolved*, 1. That it is hereby made the duty of all lodges in this jurisdiction to restrain, as far as possible, the evil of intemperance among the brethren, even to the extent of trial and punishment, when necessary.

"2. All lodges are required to exclude from the lodge room and ante-rooms all intoxicating liquors, and for the faithful performance of this duty, will be held strictly accountable to the Grand Lodge.

"All subordinate lodges are prohibited for receiving and acting upon a petition for initiation or membership from any person engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and all Masons are fraternally advised and requested to refrain from engaging in the liquor traffic."

The report on correspondence is by Bro. Lewis H. Jackson, He says they find great advantage in not exacting an affiliation fee. He is very properly opposed to public installations. He favors the right of a visiting brother to demand an inspection of the charter, because he "regards the right to 'lawful information' as mutual in its bearings." In his review of our Proceedings for 1894, he is very complimentary to us on our relief work.

Lodges, 21; members, 2039; increase, 41.

Joseph L. Cahall (Georgetown), G. M.

Benjamin F. Bartram (Wilmington), G. S

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At the semi-annual Communication, May 8, 1895, the Mississippi proposed jurisdictional rules were considered and negatived.

85th Communication, Washington, Nov. 13, 1895.

David G. Dixon, G. M.

On the condition of the craft he says:

"It gives me pleasure to state that notwithstanding the continued depression of business throughout the country the various lodges of this jurisdiction, with perhaps one or two exceptions, are in a prosperous condition, and that peace and harmony, so far as I am aware, prevail within our borders. There has been no contention 'save that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.'

"I have not been called upon to render any decisions upon disputed points. While questions have been submitted to me I do not deem it necessary to report them in detail in this address, as they were in each instance answered by a reference to the constitution of the Grand Lodge or to the rulings of my predecessors."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence. In his review of Pennsylvania, he has the following interesting description of the early rituals:

"It is surprising to us that any person well qualified to preside over so distinguished a body as the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania would show so much much ignorance of ritualism as to say that any Masonic ritual 'was practiced when Masonry was young, and has come down to us from the mist of antiquity.'

"This must make our Masonic savons laugh—such as Hughan, Gould, and others. If Grand Master Henderson had kept up with the investigations of those two brethren he would certainly know that every word of Masonic ritualism has been invented since 1720, and that the very work of Pennsylvania can only be traced back to the formation of the bogus Grand Lodge of 1740, when Laurence Dermott was the Grand Secretary of that faction. And does not he know, or should know, that in 1813, when that same Grand Lodge formed the union with the older body, they surrendered their peculiar ritual, as did also the other Grand Lodge surrender their ritual, and the two were combined into the present ritual of the United Grand Lodge of England?

"We have in our possession copies of the very earliest rituals of the first three degrees as they were practiced after the organization of the first Grand Lodge. The first one contains a mixture of the three degrees, which was evidently the only ritual of the work as practiced where the Fellow Craft and Master's part were given in the Grand Lodge only to those who were Wardens and elected Masters. The second work is divided into the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master. The third is a copy of the Dodd Manual. From 1734 to the days of Preston there was a gradual improvement in the rituals, passing through the hands of Entick, Hutchison and Dunkerly, and Preston. In 1813, when the union was accomplished, Hemmingway, the Grand Senior Warden, was charged with the duty of combining the two rituals into one, and that combination is the present ritual of the United Grand Lodge of England."

Canada for 1895 receives due attention.

On the state of Masonry in Mexico, Bro. Singleton is of the opinion that the defence of Bro. Matthews of Texas is not altogether satisfactory.

Lodges, 25; members, 4948; increase, 134.
George W. Baird (Washington), G. M.
William R. Singleton (Washington), G. S.

FLORIDA.

67th Communication, Jacksonville, January 21, 1896.

James W. Boyd, G. M.

We are sorry to notice that he mentions the death of their Grand Secretary, Bro. Albert J. Russell, who died a few days before the meeting. Bro. Russell was Grand Master in 1873, 1874 and 1875. He was an earnest and zealous Mason, an orator whose services were ever in demand, and no public man of the State was more widely or favorably known and esteemed.

Seven new lodges were opened.

The District Deputies have been zealous in their work. The lodges continue in a prosperous condition.

Under the head of Foreign Relations, the Grand Master has the following remarks :

"The angry war cloud which recently appeared upon the horizon, and threatened disastrous and fratricidal strife between the two great Anglo-Saxon nations, is happily being rapidly dispelled by the sunlight of a better understanding of the mutual relationship and sympathy of these two great English-speaking people, strengthening the desire for peace, and perpetuating the bond of friendship, which nothing but the grossest obstinacy or the most intemperate action should ever strain or break.

"There cannot be two propositions strongly antagonistic, and both be right. There must be a centre within the circumscribed area of their differences upon which the contending parties should peacefully meet and agree. We feel confident that wise counsels, guided by a sense of right and a just conception and consideration of the sympathies and material interests of these two great branches of a family—united by the ties of blood, and trade and a common tongue —will prevail, and the perplexing problem be satisfactorily solved.

"To this end, we extend to our British brethren fraternal greetings."

The Masonic lodges in the Island of Cuba have been closed by order of the Spanish Government. Their members are not able to procure their dimits, and the question arises as to how they can join other lodges. We give the letter raising the question and the report of the Committee of Jurisprudence on the same :

"My Dear Sir and Brother: I am going to trouble your attention with the consideration of one of the most peculiar and curious cases in the Masonic history. I will illustrate the case with the sample we have before us.

"Brother Pedro Duarte, an Episcopal minister of the Libertad Lodge of Matanza, Cuba, left this city and lodge in the month of April of this year. At the time, he was the representative of the Cuban Lodge, Dr. Felix Varela, at Key West, in his own lodge. He left with the highest recommendations from his body to the American lodges, both in Florida and Philadelphia, where he went, on passing through here. This and some other documents, shows his good standing in his lodge.

"While at Philadelphia the decree of the Spanish Government, closing the lodges of the island, and declaring Masonry unlawful, was published, and he and thousands of Masons see themselves to-day shut out of the order and deprived of their rights as Masons.

"Ever since his arrival at this town he has been a constant visitor to our lodge. We have several times discussed the case in our private circle.

"Suppose this or any other brother should like to join any lodge in this country, how could they do it? They cannot get any dimit from their lodges, because they were closed by the blow of a sword. Can we respect and stand by the Spanish government's unlawful act? Will these brothers be forever be deprived of their rights for a despotic ruling? Please give me your view on the matter, and advise us what to do in such singular cases.

"Meanwhile, believe me always your devoted friend and brother,

"F. Figueredo."

"The communication of Brother Figueredo to the Grand Secretary calls attention to the condition of Masons who belong to lodges in Cuba, which have been closed by the arbitrary act of the Spanish government, and declared unlawful, and who desire fraternal recognition while absent from their country during the continuance of the revolution now going on in the island. The committee recommend that such brethren, whenever it is practicable, obtain certificates of Masonic standing from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Cuba, with which this Grand Lodge holds fraternal correspondence, and if they cannot be verified by the usual seal, some other means of verification can be found with the aid of well-known brethren of Cuban birth, who are members of lodges within our jurisdiction. Such a certificate of good standing, when its authenticity is satisfactorily established, should be received as evidence in behalf of the brother lawfully in possession of it, who possesses within himself the means of Masonic recognition, when he comes into our communities, and desires to enjoy friendly and fraternal intercourse with his Masonic brethren; but no authority exists to give such a certificate the force of a dimit, while the lodges in Cuba are temporarly suppressed. Should the present unhappy condition of things continue in Cuba, it may be necessary to consider whether any further action, in accordance with Masonic usage, can be properly taken in behalf of our brethren whose Masonic privileges have been taken away, and whose lodges have been closed by an arbitrary and despotic act. At present we can do little more than offer our sympathy, and express the hope that our brethren in Cuba may soon see their Masonic homes again opened, and their lodges re-established."

It was decided that a lodge should not ballot or initiate or confer degrees on the festival days of St. John the Baptist and

St. John the Evangelist, but that there should be some special and appropriate services in addition to the installation of officers.

Owing to the untimely death of the Grand Secretary, there is no report on Correspondence.

Lodges, 150; members, 4,349; decrease, 273.

James W. Boyd (Bartow), G. M.

Wilber P. Webster (Jacksonville), G. S.

GEORGIA.

109th Communication, Macon, Oct. 29, 1895.

John P. Shannon, G. M.

Numerically they have increased and the personnel of the membership was never better. The dead branches have been lopped off and the body of the Masonic tree is living, growing and bearing only healthy moral fruit. At the request of the Improved Order of Red Men, the Grand Master laid the corner stone of their Orphans' Home. The Grand Master travelled in every part of the State and he believes that Masonry is on higher ground than ever before. He organized three new lodges.

A new Masonic paper, the Masonic Herald, is now published in Rome, Georgia, and the Grand Lodge cordially endorsed it and recommended it to the brethren.

The members of the Grand Lodge and several invited guests assembled in the Grand Lodge hall in the evening to witness the ceremonies of unveiling the memorial tablet, erected in memory of their deceased Grand Master, John S. Davidson

The matter of establishing a Masonic Home was ordered to be submitted to the various lodges for an expression of opinion.

In the general report of the District Deputies, we find the following paragraph:

"The work as it has been agreed upon by the Deputies and exemplified throughout the State, has been cheerfully received and adopted. A general disposition is manifested by the officers and members of Subordinate Lodges to co-operate in making the work uniform in all of its essential points, thereby returning as nearly as possible to the landmarks of Ancient Craft Masonry. In this particular we are pleased to state that very marked progress has been made, and while absolute uniformity may not be attainable, yet, in all the essentials, so beautifully symbolized and impressively presented by the Ritual of the Order, practical uniformity may and should be reached."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bros. Ramsay, Moody and Mumford. They keep in the background their

individual opinions and select the subjects of most general interest, leaving the brethren to form their own conclusions. A long extract is given from the address of Grand Master Gibson in 1894, with expressions of approval.

In Georgia any member of a lodge in good standing is eligible to the office of Master, fitness for the position being the only qualification required.

Lodges, 405 ; members, 16,834 ; increase, 603.

John P. Shannon (Elberton), G. M.

Andrew M. Wolihin (Macon), G. S.

IDAHO.

28th Communication, Boise City, Sep. 10, 1895.

Adelbert B. Clark, G. M.

In his introductory remarks we find the following excellent advice :

"Our aim in life should be to do right, to deal justly, act honorably, to scatter seeds of kindness for the final harvest, to manfully face every issue of life, to be gentlemen, honored and respected in the community where we reside. It teaches us to avoid excesses of all kinds, particularly the indulgence in the free use of intoxicating liquors, and above all things, what is commonly called gambling—to my mind the most vicious and demoralizing practice known to mankind. Oh, what havoc this practice has wrought among the human family. Such demoralizing practices impair the mental and physical resources, and that is a sin against both God and man. It has been wisely said that 'He who recklessly injures his health does not prove his unselfishness, but simply curtails his powers of doing good. And he who injuries his character by welcoming evil influences is thereby inflicting evil upon the community.'

"It is a useless parade, my brethren, for us as Masons to talk of the subjection of irregular passions when seated within the walls of the lodge room, if we allow them to triumph in our intercourse with the world. There is some dignity attached to being a Free Mason, and to maintain that dignity should be our constant care.

"In visiting among the constituent lodges I find that there is a disposition on the part of many to leave the work for others to do. They visit the lodge on special occasions, but the business of the lodge, the work, the real burden, must rest on some one. They don't seem to have thought just who, they are busy, cannot give up their time to lodge work. To such brethren I have this to say : You are drones in the hive of Masonry, and unworthy to share in our associations. Every man who has been made a Mason owes the craft a debt, and there are too many, my brethren, who are not even paying the interest on that debt. What can a brother rightfully expect at the hands of Masons if he spends his time in idleness when his lodge needs his assistance? To my mind, he stands in the same relation to his lodge as does a degenerate son to a righteous parent, he becomes masonically pauperized by his own inaction."

Bro. Clark visited a number of lodges and believes that these official visits do a great deal of good.

An extraordinary innovation appears in the acceptance by the Grand Lodge of an invitation from the Democratic Central Committee to attend a lecture on free silver.

The following resolution on Mormonism was adopted :

"*Whereas*, In 1883 the M. W. Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Idaho, adopted a series of resolutions on Mormonism, based on the statement or assumption, at that time, 'that the teachings of Mormonism were opposed to the law of the land, and providing 'that no person acknowledging allegiance to the so-called Mormon Church, or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, shall be admitted to any of the privileges of Masonry within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Idaho,' and

"*Whereas*, Said Church has satisfactorily demonstrated to the civil authorities of the government, both national and state, that the teachings of the so-called Mormon Church, or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, are not opposed to the law of the land, but, on the contrary, that the members of such church are a law-abiding, loyal and moral class of people, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same, therefore, be it

Resolved, That said resolution of the Grand Lodge be and the same is hereby repealed and set aside ; and members of said Church possessing the requisite qualifications otherwise, be and they are hereby declared eligible for admission as members of the Masonic Order within this jurisdiction, and to all the privileges of Masonry."

The Wisconsin relief proposition was approved.

The Grand Secretary presented his eighth report on Correspondence, in which Canada for 1894 finds a place. Bro. Stevenson says that in this whole western section, the depreciation of silver has been the chief cause of the prevailing hard times.

Lodges, 27 ; members, 1084 ; increase, 18.

Isidore S. Weiler (Boise City), G. M.

Charles C. Stevenson (Boise City), G. S.

ILLINOIS.

56th Communication, Chicago, Oct. 1, 1895.

Leroy A. Goddard, G. M.

Five new lodges were opened. Five schools of instruction were held. Sixty Deputy Grand Lecturers were commissioned, all of whom were able to make a complete rehearsal from memory of all the ceremonies, to ask and answer correctly every question pertaining to the three degrees and demonstrate their ability to teach the work. "There is no such print authorized in Illinois Masonry known as a 'cipher code,' nor any other work pretending to give assistance in acquiring a knowledge of the esoteric work." The following decisions appear to be correct :

"1. To be naturalized is not a prerequisite qualification of a candidate, either for initiation or for affiliation.

"2. A brother cannot be disciplined for arrearage of dues to a lodge that has ceased to exist.

"3 The relation a Mason sustains to the Fraternity at the time of his death cannot be changed."

The Grand Master is not satisfied with the position of Illinois as to perpetual jurisdiction. He thinks that there should be a limit to the length of the time of their control over a rejected candidate when he has removed from the state and located in another territory. By correspondence he ascertained from 45 jurisdictions that 16 recognized the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction and 29 do not.

We quote the following paragraph from the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address:

"Your committee commend all the M. W. Grand Master says of the multifarious advantages of the Masonic schools to your affections, and the beneficial effects to be derived from their continuance, to your approval. But since the high proficency in the vocabulary and ceremonies of the degrees of many Worshipful Masters, Wardens, and Brethren, other than the large number of instructors throughout this grand jurisdiction is conceded, it appears to your committee that a limited time of each school might now be advantageously employed to reach a still higher standard, by some distinctive instruction in the symbology of Masonry; that is to say, how to apply to life what is taught, and to be in fact and deed what each Freemason represents, and commend this feature to your approval and to the Grand Master's favorable action."

After the morning session the Grand Lodge adjourned to go to Dekalb, where the corner stone was laid of a State Normal School. The elements of consecration, corn, wine and oil, used on this occasion were presented to the Grand Lodge by Bro. John C. Smith, who brought them purposely from Jerusalem on his recent tour around the world.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

The Vice-President of the United States, Bro. Adlai E. Stevenson, was duly installed as Grand Orator for the ensuing year.

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That hereafter no bills of expense for laying of cornerstones, or dedication of halls, shall be allowed by this Grand Lodge, except for the personal expenses incurred by the M. W. Grand Master in the exercise of his prerogative."

The Grand Lodge refused to adopt the very reasonable suggestion of the Grand Master as to perpetual jurisdiction.

The Wisconsin relief proposal was declined.

Bro. Joseph Robbins has another of his super-excellent reports on Correspondence, reviewing 66 Grand Bodies. From

his introductory remarks we are glad to quote the following:

"We had hoped to discuss here at some length some of the more prominent questions attracting unusual attention, but the waning moments will permit us to do scarcely more than mention them. The grand representative question has now reached a stage where its discussion excites only a comparatively languid interest, it being now apparent that there is to be no rapid toppling of the system, such as was first looked for by some when Pennsylvania and Iowa led off in abandoning it. The expression of opinion on the subject has been very general and sufficiently decided to indicate that if abandoned it will be for other reasons than those assigned by those who took the initiative in that direction. The nine days' wonder is practically over.

"The question of jurisdiction over rejected material is still a burning one and is threatening to some extent the relation of Grand Lodges. The generally adverse action on the uniform rules tentatively proposed by Mississippi, for a variety of reasons well set forth by Past Grand Master Speed, their author, to be found in our review of that jurisdiction, indicates that as yet the Craft is far from being sufficiently impressed with the gravity of the situation to even approach a concensus of opinion. It is already beginning to be more clearly seen that the main question involved—apart from the foundation which the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, or perpetual 'Masonic objection,' as the lamented Vaux preferred to call it, may have in the landmarks—is not whether a wrongdoer may repent or an unfit candidate outgrow his unworthiness, but that it is one in which Masonry, not the candidate, is the chief factor; the question whether the Masonic acts of a lawfully constituted lodge working in conformity to the regulations of the Grand Lodge which is conceded to be for it the lawful interpreter of Masonic law, are entitled to full faith and credit. When this comes to be generally realized on both sides a peaceful modus vivendi will not be far off.

"The Wisconsin proposition relative to Masonic relief which marks, we trust, the high water mark of a tendency to convert Masonry into a mutual benefit or insurance society, has already engaged the attention of many grand lodges. Wholly bad in itself, as we regard it, because it subverts one of the fundamental principles of the Fraternity, we think its being put forth in good faith for the subscription of grand lodges has been beneficial, and that the result is reassuring. It is true that several grand lodges have given more or less countenance to the proposition, but in the great majority the expression has not only been adverse, but couched in terms as to leave no doubt of their being safely grounded in the charitable faith as set forth in the primary engagements of the Craft. It has done good by startling Masons into a realization of the extent to which the environment of Masonry has influenced its charitable methods, dangerously strengthening the insidious departure from the Masonic plan which comes out of the convenience of compounding for personal service with money and the distribution of alms by proxy.

"Quite separate from this, yet allied to it in this, that they both have a commercial root, is the wide departure of the Craft from the landmarks in its legislation against non-affiliates. It is but a poor satisfaction to say 'I told you so,' but as we pointed out the dangerous tendency of the legislation of many grand lodges, not alone of those on the frontier, but of old and conservative bodies like the

Grand Lodge of New York, twenty-five years ago, it is gratifying to see, as we think we can, a growing recognition of the unmasonic, as well as futile, character of the increasingly severe legislation against this class of our brethren which has marked the last three decades. As yet that legislation is only too strongly intrenched, but more voices are being raised against it, and it is rarer to find in the address of grand masters a demand for another turn of the fraternal thumbscrew to cure the evil that has increased with every twist. A recognition of the futility of such legislation is a mighty help towards a dispassionate reconsideration of the status of non-affiliates.

"The full extent of the scandal involved in the recognition of the Grand Dieta Simbolica of Mexico by Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, is just now becoming apparent to the whole world of regular Masonry. We have only time to refer our readers to our report, and particularly to our review of New York, for the facts, and to say that while the discovery that the allegations of Bro. Chism that Mexican lodges subordinate to the gran dieta admitted women and excluded the Bible from their altars, is important, it should not cause Masons who are and want to be loyal to the landmarks, to forget the utter illegitimacy of the lodges for reasons entirely apart from these disclosures, and that during the outcry and confusion consequent on these scandals is the time when they should be most watchful against the machinations of those who would seek to commit them to the doctrine that some other Masonry than the Masonry of the charges of a Freemason—Free and Accepted Masonry—may under certain conditions create lodges than are recognizable as a lawful basis for a Grand Lodge."

Canada for 1894 has a large share of his attention. He says that the reports of our District Deputies reflect a vast amount of labor faithfully and intelligently done and carefully reported.

Lodges 718; members, 50,727; increase, 491.

Owen Scott (Bloomington), G. M.

J. H. C. Dill (Bloomington), G. S.

INDIANA.

74th Communication, Indianapolis, May 28, 1895.

Frank E. Gavin, G. M.

Prosperity has been the rule with both lodges and Grand Lodge. "The light of Masonry has dawned upon many hearts." Their numbers have been increased and their spirit of devotion to the right has not been diminished. Four new lodges were formed. The doctrine that a rejection by one lodge operates *ipso facto* as a rejection by all meets with no favor in Indiana. Bro. Gavin says that they have not been taught to consider the doctrine of eternal damnation as holding good in Masonry. He has the following on public ceremonies:

"I have been called upon repeatedly, both last year and during the present year, to rule that it was not permissible for Masonic lodges to turn out to attend church or for Fourth of July or Decoration

Day services. In so holding I have followed the decisions of all my predecessors, and the dictates of my own judgment as well. Such services are in no sense of the word Masonic, and by our law, by which we must be governed, Masonic processions are limited to Masonic occasions. Masonry need not now proclaim the patriotism of her sons. Love of country has ever been a characteristic of Masons. Of the sturdy patriots of 1776, who dared to do and to die for their country's cause, who freely gave their own lives that their children might be free, Masons stood among the foremost. A long line of Masons, inclnding Washington, LaFayette, Warren and Jackson, and nearly all the signers of the Declaration of Independence, attests the patriotism of our Order.

The Grand Master ruled that it is not consistent with the general plan of Masonry for a lodge to adopt a by-law providing for the payment of stated sums as sick benefits. He refused to allow the use of the name "Masonic" in connection with an investment company.

It was properly decided that the advance fee should be returned to a candidate who from any cause failed to receive the degrees.

A proposal to reduce the dues from forty cents to twenty-five cents per capita was lost.

Three Historians of the Grand Lodge were appointed to secure and preserve everything relating to the early history of Masonry in Indiana. Life membership is not allowed in Indiana. "Experience shows that the payment of twenty years dues is not an equitable amount for a life membership." We were under the impression that the average duration of membership in Masonic lodges was under ten years, and if so, the above statement is incorrect.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was not concurred in.

The following report was adopted unanimously:

"Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relating to the correspondence between the Grand Master of Pennsylvania and Grand Master Gavin of our own jurisdiction, growing out of the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates, as held by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, respectfuily report:

"That the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, is, and of right ought to be, the 'highest authority of Ancient Craft Masonry within the State of Indiana.' That while we accord to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and all other Grand Lodges, the right to make laws for the government of the craft within their respective jurisdictions, we claim the same privileges for our own Grand Lodge. Regarding the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates, we believe it to be wrong in theory and pernicious in action; not in accordance with the well recognized principal of Grand Lodge sovereignty and not a landmark in Masonry, being held only by a minority of American Grand Lodges. It is the only question now disturbing the amity existing between

Grand Jurisdictions, and it is with pleasure we note the abrogation or modification of the rule by some of the Grand Lodges hitherto holding it.

"We offer no suggestion to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for the government of its own lodges, but we do deny its right to work perpetual disqualification of material living within the jurisdiction of Indiana. We hold it to be a fundamental principle of Masonic equity that every lodge of Free and Accepted Masons is the conservator of Masonry within its specific jurisdiction, subject only to the rules of the Grand Lodge under which it holds. We therefore recommend that the action of Grand Master Gavin be approved.

"Regarding the status of the brother over whose making the difference has arisen, we declare that he, having been made in a just and lawfully constituted lodge of Masons, is a regular Mason; and that his making, being lawfully done where done, is lawful everywhere; and that he, being a regular Mason, is entitled to the recognition and fellowship of the craft wheresoever he may go."

In his review of our Proceedings of 1894, Bro. William Commons says that Canada justifies the definition that "Masonry is charity in action."

Lodges, 476; members, 27,507; increase, 610.

Edward O'Rourke (Fort Wayne), G. M.

William H. Smythe (Indianapolis), G, S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

22nd Communication, Atoka, August 13th, 1895.

John Coyle, G. M.

The Grand Master visited 23 lodges during the year. He established eight new lodges. Two of his decisions are novel:

"3. Can we initiate an Indian who cannot speak or understand the English language?

"Yes; provided you have a good interpreter. * * *

"10. Is shaking dice for cigars and running a barber shop on Sunday a Masonic offence?

"Shaking dice for cigars is certainly a Masonic offence. If running a barber shop on Sunday is contrary to the law, it is also a Masonic offence."

With very few exceptions, the lodges are in a prosperous condition. A resolution was passed extending fraternal greetings to a newly formed "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Indian Territory." This is a new departure, as Grand Lodges usually ignore any such bodies and do not admit their claim to be Masonic. True, they may be composed entirely of Masons, but is not ancient Freemasonry pure and simple, composed of three degrees and no more?

A committee was appointed to have the Grand Lodge legally incorporated. This is also directly contrary to the practice of most other Grand Lodges.

It was held that a Mason's daughter marrying a profane does not forfeit her claim upon Masonry.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was declined, and the same fate befell the Mississippi rules as to jurisdiction.

The Grand Secretary presented his 18th report on Correspondence. Canada for 1894 receives due notice. On joint occupancy, he says: "We have no such law in Indian Territory."

"Lodges are permitted to rent or sublet their halls. This is permitted largely because the country is new. Halls are scarce, and we desire to be kind and generous to our little sister secret societies, albeit they are only imitators of Masonry and have taken all or nearly all the value there is about them from the old Mother of all such benevolent and moral institution."

Lodges, 73; members, 2568; increase, 232.
John Coyle (Bailey), G. M.
Joseph S. Murrow (Atoka), G. S.

IOWA.

52nd Communication, Marshalltown, June 4, 1895.
Liberty E. Fellows, G. M.

The work throughout the jurisdiction in the subordinate lodges has been active and indicates a good degree of prosperity. Five new lodges were opened. Schools of Instruction were held in 41 counties of the State, in which 308 actual meetings were held with a good attendance.

The business transacted was local in interest.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. J. C. W. Coxe. In his review of Canada for 1894 he compliments Grand Master Gibson on his noble address. We quote the following:

"One hundred and seventy pages of the proceedings are taken up with the detailed reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters—eighteen in number. Were the suave, gracious, and sometimes fulsome compliments omitted the saving of space would be marked—yet how much of sweetness (taffy) would be lost! If the compliments are at all well deserved let us hold on to them; life has none too much of graciousness at best."

Lodges, 465; members, 26,103; increase, 1051.
George W. Ball (Iowa City), G. M.
Thedore S. Parvin (Cedar Rapids), G. S.

KANSAS.

40th Communication, Wichita, February 19, 1896.
James H. McCall, G. M.

The Grand Master visited twenty lodges and he sums up the work of the lodges as follows :

" During my tour among the lodges I witnessed the conferring of all the degrees, and am pleased to report that all the lodges visited, with one exception, are endeavoring to render the work accurately and in strict conformity to that adopted by this Grand Lodge, thereby obeying the constitution and obligations taken. The one exception mentioned is one of the largest lodges in the State, and one which has earned an enviable reputation for fine ritualistic effects. This lodge, while aiming to give the language of the ritual correctly, departs from the established floor movements and instructions of the work in very many particulars, and injects into the work many features which, while undoubtedly adding to the dramatic effect of a degree and making it most beautiful, has not a particle of warrant of authority in the work in my possession. This Grand Lodge has spent much time and money in attempting to secure uniformity of work in the lodges throughout the jurisdiction, and if each lodge should be permitted to incorporate its own peculiar ideas as to work, all this time and money would have been spent in vain. Freemasonry has existed from time immemorial because no innovations upon its usages, customs and landmarks have been permitted, and strict compliance with the Constitution, laws, rules and edicts of the Grand Lodge should be required from all its constituents."

Three new lodges were organized.

A number of cases of distress were acted upon, large amounts being freely granted to deserving members and their families, thus amply exemplifying one of the great cardinal precepts of our fraternity.

A proposal to reduce the minimum initiation fee from $30 to $20 was negatived, not having secured the requisite two-thirds vote.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was rejected.

The Grand Lodge of Mexico was recognized by the adoption of the following report :

1. " The Symbolic lodges of Mexico entered into the organization and formation of the Grand Dieta, and the latter was duly and regularly organized as a sovereign Grand Body over the Symbolic degrees of Masonry within the Grand Jurisdiction of Mexico, in February, 1890.

" 2. The charges made against the Gran Dieta as a sovereign Grand Lodge are shown never to have been true as to its Constitution and By-Laws, and it has by solemn enactment decreed that the Holy Bible, square and compass should be used on all masonic altars in the Symbolic lodges of the Republic of Mexico, and that all charters held by so-called women lodges be at once withdrawn, and no recognition of women as Masons ever be made.

3. " We also find that practical recognition has been given to the Gran Dieta by American Masons residing or sojourning in Mexico, and that American visitors to Mexican lodges find the work to be practically the same as that of the lodges of the United States ; that the recognition of the Gran Dieta by the Grand Lodge of Texas has been productive of a better feeling of amity between the two juris-

dictions; that recognition has also been formally made of the Gran Dieta by the Grand Lodges of New York and North Dakota, and that the Grand Lodge of Missouri, by advising its subordinate Toltec Lodge, No. 520, to accept a charter from the Gran Dieta, has in the most impressive manner certified to its legitimacy and regularity, and borne testimony to the fact that it regarded and considered the Gran Dieta a body of character and stability, and entitled to the allegiance of all the Symbolic lodges within its jurisdiction. We also find from the testimony of Masons known to us that the "good of Masonry" demands that we extend a helping hand to our brethren of Mexico.

"We therefore recommend that the Grand Symbolic Diet of the United States of Mexico be duly recognized by this Grand Lodge in accordance with our usual custom in such matters."

Bro. M. M. Miller presented his third report on Correspondence. He reviews Canada for 1895, and says that we are to be congratulated on the manifest excellence of our system of visitation of the lodges by the District Deputies.

On the necessity of systematizing our work of relief, Bro. Miller has the following pertinent remarks :

"We are glad to note that the distinguished brethren, who are called upon to instruct their brethren at the annual communications, are beginning to let go of the ancient chestnut, 'The antiquity of Masonry,' and discuss the framework and uses of the completed structure as well. This is a utilitarian age. The question of '*cui bono*' is heard on every hand. The necessities and demands of distressed humanity are greater, notwithstanding our increased civilization and organized charities, than ever before. Organization has more clearly shown the greater distress which exists, than we had imagined. The chance charity of the masonic world is seldom sought by the worthy, and he who 'gives upon the impulse of his conception of his brother's present need,' whether he contents himself with the Jewish half shekel of silver, or its equivalent, or makes a more generous donation, if he makes strict examination into his investment, so often finds that it has gone neither to the worthy or meritorious, that his loss of faith in humanity prevents further ventures of like character. The world has organized its charities. Masonry must do likewise if she wishes to benefit the really destitute, and prevent systematic fraud from robbing the funds which should be held only for the benefit of the distressed or if she wishes to ascertain who of her own household are in need of relief."

Lodges, 354 ; members, 19,185 ; increase, 198.
Chiles C. Coleman (Clay Centre), G. M.
Albert K. Wilson (Topeka), G. S.

KENTUCKY.

96th Communication, Louisville, Oct. 15, 1895.
Henry H. Holman, G. M.
He has the following remarks on "Our Home :"

"It is not necessary that the Grand Master should commend to

the loyal craft of Kentucky Our Home. 'Like a city set upon a hill, it cannot be hid.'

"The one thought that is uppermost in the minds of Kentucky Masons; the one hope that, like a beacon, guides and cheers them; the one purpose that dominates their actions, is the home. The law of conservation teaches us that nothing in the material world which has ever had existence is lost. Matter may assume new forms and be applied to new purposes, but the smallest atom created by infinite wisdom, the product of divine energy, is of importance so great divine power is pledged for its preservation, so too in the universe of ethics.

"Hunger relieved or nakedness clothed, a smile made to play where a teardrop coursed its way, are immortal deeds. 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'

'Lodges which make application for the admission of children into the home sign an agreement that they well take back such children when they become sixteen years of age. This is in comformity with a wise provision in the rules of the home. When the children have attained the age of sixteen, having completed the course of study at the home, they are fitted to begin life in earnest and self-supporting, able to earn their own living. To remain at the home after that would make them a burden upon their friends and the fraternity. Thus the ywould be in danger of losing their self-respect, and their future usefulness would be impaired if not practically destroyed.

"I am confident that it is only necessary to direct your attention to this important matter to secure your hearty concurrence, and that you will see to it that your respective lodges comply with the agreement entered into which so nearly concerns the interests of the children from your lodge.

"It is impossible for the home directors to find places for all the children. If they could do so it would be better for them to return to the vicinity from which they came, that they may be among their friends, who ought to and will look after them.

"But the accomplishments of great things should not satisfy us; and the overcoming of obstacles apparently unsurmountable should develop our energy, make us conscious of our powers and incite us to yet higher achievements. On the 4th day of June I issued the following circular letter:

"*To the Master, Wardens and Brethren:*

"The repeated recommendations of my predecessors and the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, that St. John's Day be celebrated in the interest of the Masonic Home, comes to my mind as a timely and forcible suggestion which meets with my hearty approval.

"As we greet our brethren on that happy occasion, let us not forget the orphans of our absent ones, and in making your programmes remember these facts:

"There are 265 widows and orphans in Our Home whose maintenance costs about $100 each per year, or a total of $26,500. The extraordinary expenses for grading and paving Second street, replacing worn out water and steam pipes, etc., last year, left a deficit to the amount of $4,000 which has not been made good. The children must not suffer, and we give you the Grand Hailing Sign.

"The necessity for extra effort is urgent. If every brother will but do his part as his ability permits, there will be no difficulty.

One failure severs a link and the chain is broken. We are sure you will not be the defective link. Now listen :

"I suggest that every brother make a free will offering this year, and let the amount he gives be reported by the Lodge Secretary to our Grand Secretary, with the list and money, so that the name of every contributor, lodge or brother shall be published in the Masonic Home Journal.

"I trust that the name of every brother in this jurisdiction will be in the list. "Very fraternally yours,

"H. H. HOLEMAN, *Grand Master.*"

Four new lodges received dispensations.

From the report of the special committee on Centennial Celebration it appears that their design is to build and endow in connection with their Widows and Orphans' Home, an Infirmary and Home for aged, infirm and penniless brother Masons. They have already secured 746 subscriptions, amounting to $12,636.75, which is certainly a splendid beginning. The Centennial occurs in 1900.

The preparation of a proper ritual for the Past Master's degree was indefinitely postponed.

The following resolution was adopted :

"*Whereas*, The retail of spirituous liquors has been so abused as to become a great evil in the social life of our country, so that the prosecution of that business by a Master Mason is inconsistent with his profession of moral character and conduct, and calculated to bring the order into public disrepute ; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge disapprove the conducting of such business by a Master Mason."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. W. W. Clarke. It is written and compiled with great ability and forms one of the most interesting papers of the year. Canada for 1894 has a good notice.

Lodges, 461 ; members, 17,399 ; decrease, 139. We also notice that they have 684 members who pay no dues. They are called "free members," and consist of ministers and "fifty year members."

Frank C. Gerard (Bowling Green), G. M.

H. B. Grant (Louisville), G. S.

LOUISIANA

84th Communication, New Orleans, February 10, 1896.

George H. Packwood, G. M.

The Craft has continued in a fair state of prosperity. The accessions to the lodges have been from the best material, and who will reflect credit on the fraternity. The financial depression, however, still continues. Three new lodges were formed. The Louisiana Relief Lodge continues its good work of assist-

ance to those in distress. It is kept up entirely by free-will donations from lodges and brethren throughout the State.

On the war scare, the Grand Master delivered the following most excellent sentiments:

"Within the last few months there has been considerable anxiety arising from fear that friendly relations may be dissevered that exists between our nation and some of the European nations, especially between our nation and England. The great danger to the growth of civilization by a rupture of our peaceful relations with any of the great powers of Europe cannot be over-estimated. But a rupture between England and these United States—the two foremost nations on the globe, speaking the same language, united by ties of blood, by religion, by stupendous intellectual and moral forces, all tending to advance the happiness of man, elevate the standard of free government, promote trade, commerce, the liberal arts—a rupture and war between *these two nations* would be a crime, the magnitude of which would find no parallel in the history of the world. The danger of such a war to civilization, to progress, to reform, to the unification of the races, the destruction to life, to property and all the grand things born of the nineteenth century to bless mankind, are more than sufficient to appall the stoutest heart.

"No being now born would live to see the end of the waste and desolation, material and moral, that would inevitably ensue from such a strife between these two great forces, contending on land and sea for supremacy! So great would be the destruction, so appalling the consequences, that it behooves every lover of peace, and certainly every believer in God and our religion, to raise his voice against the possibility of such a calamity.

"In such a moment, in the face of such fearful consequences, the millions of Masons throughout the world owe to themselves, to the peoples of the earth, to raise their united *voices* in favor of peace and a settlement of all national difficulties by arbitration, and to frown down any and all efforts to relegate these national questions to the arbitrament of the sword.

"The teachings of Masonry are brotherly love, the union of hearts, the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men. At this hour it is our duty, by precept and example, to exemplify our teaching with such earnestness as to make ourselves felt. We can make no mistake when we put ourselves on the side of the Great Teacher whose mission was peace on earth and good will to man. Nations are formed of men combined for their common good. What is the interest of the individual is the common good of all. In peace all the people rejoice; in war the nations mourn. Let us do our duty, and do it well.

"I am glad to record that one of our sister jurisdictions has passed resolutions counselling the Masons throughout the globe to throw the great weight of their influence in favor of peace, and urging all to join in the voicing of that sentiment.

'I recommend that this important matter be referred to a special committee for their serious consideration, and requesting said committee to prepare and report suitable resolutions expressive of their strong desire for a continuance of those pacific relations that have so long existed uninterrupted between this nation and that of England."

The special committee to whom was referred that portion of

the Grand Master's address, submitted their report, which, after considerable debate and a call of roll by lodges, was not adopted. The proceedings do not show the tenor of the report.

The Grand Lodge of Tasmania was recognized.

The following resolutions were passed:

"*Resolved*, That the M. W. Grand Lecturer in his travels through the State in the discharge of his duties, is hereby requested to call the attention of the lodges throughout the State of the *grand and good work* being done by the Louisiana Relief Lodge, to the end that *voluntary contributions* may be received by said Relief Lodge from the different lodges and members as may feel disposed to help in the good work.

"*Be it Resolved*, That a special committee of five (5) members of this Grand Lodge be appointed to draft a charter for the establishment of a home for indigent Master Masons, their widows and orphans in the State of Louisiana; said committee to formulate said charter and report to this Grand Lodge at their next communication for their approval."

Bro. J. Q. A. Fellows submitted his tenth report on correspondence. We regret to learn that our good brother has been prostrated by a most severe illness, and was only able to read up for this report on the 12th of November last. Bro Fellow's report is arranged by topics and not by jurisdictions. On the powers of Grand Masters, he says:

"As at present organized, Grand Masters owe their position, powers and priviliges to the Constitution of their respective Grand Lodges, and these are as the representatives of the lodges make them at their creation and still continue to make them. The only Grand Masters which are known in history prior to 1717, were those appointed by the rulers of the land, to take charge of the body (the Masons), which existed in the realm. We indeed, read of General Assemblies of Masons, mass conventions of the Fraternity, held annually, or more or less frequently, when a presiding officer was elected for the occasion, designated the Grand Master, but that he possessed any powers, other than such as were then enacted, authorizing the carrying out of certain edicts or resolves of the Assembly, we have no knowledge. These Grand Masters were simply the presiding officers of the assemblies, and the executive for the time being of such resolves as the assemblies might make. The others also, those appointed by the rulers of the land, were not always Masons, and possessed such power as the king in his commission gave them. They usually presided over these assemblies, and did other acts by virtue of their appointment. From such Grand Masters no power, rights or privileges could be derived, and none ever existed. The first Grand Master of Masons was elected under the constitutions and regulations of the Grand Lodge of 1717, and all others since that date have been elected under constitutions of Grand Lodges created by the several lodges, changed from time to time as the exigencies of the occasion seemed to require.

"Every Grand Lodge in existence was formed by a convention of representatives of lodges, adopting a constitution and electing officers, among them and under the provision of the constitution a Grand Master. If the phrase, such powers and privileges as belong to Grand

Masters mean anything, it is that they possess the power, etc.. of a presiding officer and was the chief executive of the Masons and the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction.

"We have never believed nor have we ever seen any reason to believe, they possessed any other than those just enumerated, and such as were given them by the Grand Lodge through its constitution edicts and resolves. I remember being told by one soon after I was elected Grand Master that I would find occasion to change my opinion in this regard, but in six continuous years of very arduous and difficult service (from 1860 to 1866), never saw the occasion, nor have I since the end of that service thirty years ago.

"Touching upon the next subject, I may add that the first Grand Lodge, as were all the others in the British Islands, were formed by conventions of the lodges in existence at that time, that of 1717 (the first) by the four old lodges of London, who were without charters from any source, but held from time immemorial. This (and the other Grand Lodges) created and gave charters to lodges and these in turn created other Grand Lodges in the states and territories where they existed, and thus it happens that all Grand Lodges are the creatures of the constituent lodges. We have not far to go therefore, to ascertain the source of power of Grand Masters and the extent of their rights, privileges and prerogatives."

Lodges, 129; members, 5346; increase, 71.
Albert G. Brice (New Orleans), G. M.
Richard Lambert (New Orleans), G. S.

MAINE.

76th Communication, Portland, May 7, 1895.
Horace H. Burbank, G. M.

He decided that a lodge has no right to pay out of its treasury the expenses of its annual receptions, the principal feature of which is dancing. "Nor is it Masonic to advertise Masonry in that manner, or any other." In the face of this very strong condemnation of advertising Masonry, we are surprised to find on the next page of the Grand Master's address, that he publicly installed the officers of two lodges, delivering an address on each occasion. "The customary banquet was a feature of each entertainment." Some people have very queer ideas as to what advertising means. The addresses of the Grand Master on these occasions doubtless contained some eulogistic remarks on the Masonic Fraternity, and they were addressed to those who were not Masons. For what purpose? Of course not to induce them to become Masons, for that would certainly be advertising Masonry. What then could have been the object we are at a loss to conjecture. The solemn vows and promises made by each officer as he was installed must have been intended to impress the outside public with some ideas of the excellence of Masonry, else why do it

in public? Then if the public are impressed with the excellence of our institution, they will doubtless desire to join. Then what is the whole business any way but "advertising Masonry"? They may shelter themselves behind their hundred years of custom and usage, but neither one hundred or one thousand years of such a custom will nullify the fact that these public appearances are more or less "advertising Masonry."

Dispensations were issued for two new lodges.

From the report of the Grand Lecturers we learn that nine Conventions were held during the year for the purpose of instruction in Masonic work. The conclusion of the report is as follows:

"All the meetings were characterized by close attention and eagerness for instruction, and the same course was pursued in all, viz.: the work and lecture were recited slowly and plainly by some brother well qualified, and the Grand Lecturer, presiding, carefully corrected every error when made.

"The work was thoroughly done, and must result in great benefit to the craft during the coming years.

"Your Grand Lecturers, after long experience, are very positive in their belief that no system of imparting ritualistic instruction has ever been employed in Maine which comes near equaling the present one of holding conventions in different sections of our state, which can be attained by officers and brethren of lodges, as well as by District Deputies. Since its introduction we notice greater uniformity and accuracy, year by year, in the rendition of the ritual, and increasing interest manifested by officers and members in all the affairs of the lodges.

"For obvious reasons more conventions were held this year than will be required in any one year in the future."

The seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Grand Lodge was celebrated with appropriate exercises. The musical features were by the Masonic quartette. The historical address by P. G. M. Edward P. Burnham is very interesting. This was followed by "Reminiscenses of Early Members," by P. G. M. Hiram Chase, and an oration by P. G. M. Josiah H. Drummond.

The following is the report of the committee on the History of Masonry in Maine:

"Since the last session of the Grand Lodge, histories have been received as fallows, namely: In print Ashlar, 105, Lewiston; and Orient, 15, Thomason; Granite, 182, West Paris, now in press. Also in print, the histories of Tuscan and Ionic Lodges, presented last year in manuscript by Bro. Herbert Harris, and printed by vote of the Grand Lodge (page 41, Proceedings 1894).

"In manuscript, Fraternal, 55, Alfred; Blazing Sar, 30, Rumford Centre; and Oriental, 13 Bridgton.

"Asylum, 133, Wayne, has its history complete in manuscript and it will be printed early in the coming year. Other histories are in an

advanced state and a large number of committees have been appointed, and data is being collected preparatory to the proper arrangement and publication of the same.

"Your committee wish to extend their thanks to the D. D. G. Masters who have so cheerfully aided them in the performance of the difficult work of securing lodge histories."

New clothing for the Grand Officers was ordered, with a suitable number of aprons for the permanent members of the Grand Lodge.

A healthful growth and progress is apparent in all the districts. Canada for 1894 receives a good notice at the hand of Bro. J. H. Drummond. He compliments our District Deputies as "faithful and impartial officers," and on our typography he says:

"When we opened these proceedings we almost thought that we had grown young; but as we complete our review, we find that the cause was to be found in the splendid manner in which this volume is printed; in behalf of many, we thank those responsible for it, and we verily believe that the change in style will increase the number of readers at home as well as abroad."

The following is a very sensible suggestion. We will add to it that the time should be one year:

"The more thought we have given to the matter the more strongly we are confirmed in the opinion that the adoption of a uniform time by all grand lodges, during which the effect of a rejection or an election to be in force, leaving to each jurisdiction the responsibility of requiring 'due enquiry' to be made, in accordance with the old law, is the simplest and best solution of the whole question."

In his review of Maryland, he has the following on Grand Honors:

"We have always understood that the battery is a mere salute and were greatly surprised to find that it had ever been classed as 'Grand Honors,' and we think that that must have been done upon assumption, and without consideration or examination. We never understood that it had any allusion to Royal Arch Masonry, even when repeated twice. We have seen it given to a Master of a lodge without repeating it. It is a method of 'salute' the world over, and as such we believe is properly given—but never when the 'Grand Honors' are required."

We also quote the following on joint occupancy:

"We suppose that we are rather heterodox in relation to the joint occupancy of halls. The fathers managed to practice Masonry and get along well, although they occupied halls that between meetings were occupied for other purposes, and we never have seen any sufficient reason for compelling a lodge to hire the exclusive use of a hall for the purpose of occupying it only a dozen or twenty evenings in the year. The occupancy of a hall by an organization composed of masons and their wives, daughters, and sisters, must be as unobjectionable as occupancy by any profane orgsnization."

Also the following from his notice of North Dakota:

"The practice of making more than one mason 'at a time' in the

sense in which our brother uses it, is a very modern one: 'the fathers' would as soon have made a mason in the street as to have two go through the ceremonies at the same time: the practice grows out of the modern idea, that the object is to make masons instead of teaching masonic principles by making masons, and undoubtedly comes to us from the 'higher degrees.'"

Lodges, 192; members, 21,809; increase, 187.

Augustus B. Farnham (Bangor), G. M.

Stephen Berry (Portland), G. S.

MANITOBA.

20th Communication, Winnipeg, June 12, 1895.

Thomas Tweed, G. M.

The Grand Master very properly refused to allow a lodge to install its officers in public. On the state of the Craft he says:

"A reference to the several reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, shows an increase of membership during the year. The prevailing financial depression, however, has doubtless had the effect of preventing many worthy men from seeking admission to our beloved institution. This is to be regretted, yet we have the knowledge that our membership is united, and that the greatest harmony exists all over our wide jurisdiction. I am hopeful that with the now returning tide of prosperity, our prospects will be materially brightened. I would urge upon the subordinate lodges the necessity of sufficiently insuring their property, and of collecting the dues more promptly, and would suggest the advisability, in the general interests of Masonry in this jurisdiction, of the abolition or reduction of affiliation fees"

A disastrous fire destroyed the entire edition of their proceedings of 1894, together with their library and nearly all the other property of the Grand Lodge.

Four new lodges were formed, at Innisfail, Red Deer, Calgary and Regina, the last being composed of the North-West Mounted Police.

Contrary to the general practice, the Grand Lodge resolved to apply for incorporation in the North-West Territories.

It was decided that one lodge could not confer the degree of E. A. at the request of another lodge and that such degree could only be conferred by the lodge to which the petition for initiation was presented and by which the petitioner was accepted.

A revised constitution was adopted.

Owing to the fire there is no report on correspondence.

Lodges 55; members, 2,334; increase, 55.

Charles N. Bell (Winnipeg), G. M.

William G. Scott (Winnipeg), G. S.

MARYLAND.

On May 7, 1895, the Grand Master assembled the Grand Officers in his office and informed them that he was about to exercise his prerogative of making a Mason at sight. They then repaired to Fidelity Lodge, which was in session, and the Grand Master then conferred the three degrees upon a Minister of the Gospel, aged 33, who was thereupon balloted for and elected a member of that lodge.

At the half-yearly meeting on May 14, 1895, majority and minority reports were presented on the subject of laying corner stones, unveiling statues, burial of the dead, "while the lodge is open in the third degree." The majority report held that the lodge should be "called off," while the minority report held that it should be open and not called off. The minority report was adopted. Our practice is to call off the lodge, but that does not by any means mean that the lodge is closed. The lodge is still open, although it may be "called off" for some specific purpose.

109th Communication, Baltimore, Nov. 19, 1895.

Thomas J. Shryock, G. M.

Bro. Shryock has now been Grand Master for ten years, and was again re-elected. This is a very unusual record, and the Grand Master must possess the love and esteem of his brethren in no slight degree. His official duties were light, no decisions were asked for, and nothing transpired of extraordinary moment.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Edward T. Schultz. He says that he can see no more necessity for members to sign the by-laws to constitute membership, than to require them to attach their names to all the other obligations they assume. He suggests the following plan to secure uniform General Regulations:

"Select *one* earnest, zealous Brother, from each Grand Lodge jurisdiction to assemble in convention, not for three or four days during the excitement of a "World's Fair," but in some quiet retired place, and to deliberate for a month or more if necessary. Let them discard all Grand Lodge constitutions and take the ancient charges and regulations, which all admit are the fundamental law of the Craft as a basis, and, ascertaining what has been the *general* usages and customs of the Craft among the older Grand Lodges, and formulate thereupon *General Regulations* for the government of the *fraternity* of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

"We repeat, be believe that Brethren could be selected, the result of whose labors in such a direction would, in time, be generally adopted by every Grand Lodge in the world."

Canada for 1894 is well noticed.

Lodges, 83 ; members, 6,892 ; increase, 271.
Thomas J. Shryock (Baltimore), G M.
Jacob H. Medairy (Baltimore), G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Quarterly Communication, March 13, 1895.

An animated and protracted discussion took place on a proposition to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the erection of the first monument on Bunker Hill. It was finally decided in the negative by a vote of 90 to 68.

A committee was appointed to revise the Constitution preparatory to the publication of a new edition.

Quarterly Communication, June 12, 1895.

The Constitution was revised and a new edition of the Digest of Masonic Law in Massachusetts was ordered.

Bro. John H. Collamore donated $5000 toward a charity fund, to be placed in charge of the Trustees of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust.

Four lodges celebrated their centennial anniversaries.

Quarterly Communication, September 11, 1895.

Their beautiful Temple was almost destroyed by fire a few days previously, but their library, portraits and records were saved.

Bro. John H. Callamore generously denoted another sum of $5000 to their charity fund. In compliment of the donor, the fund is to be called the John H. Collamore Charity Fund.

It was resolved to ask for authority to increase their real estate holding to two million dollars and their personalty holding to two hundred thousand dollars.

The insurance on the Temple was adjusted at $88,880, and on the contents at $21,298.

Authority was given to sell the damaged building and site, with a view to purchase elsewhere. The price will probably be in the neighborhood of one million dollars.

Quarterly Communication, December 11, 1895.

Edwin B. Holmes, G. M.

The Grand Master delivered his annual address. The year was one of great Masonic activity. The Templar Conclave at Boston gave a great impetus to lodge work. A number of lodges celebrated their centennial anniversaries. We copy the following paragraph :

" In the midst of the duties and sorrows of the year, the spirit of charity has been active among us. Bro. John H. Callamore has

given to the Grand Lodge the sum of $15,000, to establish a fund for charitable purposes and to be called the 'John H. Collamore Fund.' The Lodge of St. Andrew has given $1,000.00, to establish the 'Lodge of St. Andrew Charity Fund,' the income to be devoted to the charities of this Grand Lodge. It is with grateful hearts that we acknowledge the generosity of our brethren, and we hope their example will be an incentive to others to contribute to the Masonic Education and Charity Trust, so that ultimately this Grand Body may be able to meet every worthy appeal."

The first volume of the Record's Reprint is now completed. It covers the years from 1733 to 1792.

The Grand Master recommends as follows :

"I herewith submit some recommendations for your consideration. They concern the introduction of certain practices into our lodge work which are clearly innovations, and are not warranted by the requirements of our Grand Constitutions.

"I refer, first, to the use of the stereopticon. It mars the simplicity and grandeur of our work and adds nothing to its impressiveness. It introduces a new, unwarranted practice, which, if allowed to continue, might be used as a precedent for numerous other innovations. Where I have known the stereopticon to be used, I have on my own responsibility ordered its discontinuance. The brethren seem to have cheerfully conformed to my desire.

"I refer, secondly, to the practice of dressing the Fellow-Crafts in an ancient and unusual garb, and the introduction of fancy evolutions and paraphernalia unknown until our day. These are innovations and have no warrant in our Grand Constitutions. The costuming might serve as a precedent for the clothing of all the officers of a lodge in distinctive and expensive regalia. Where my attention has been called to these matters I have requested their discontinuance.

"Thirdly, I believe that music adds greatly to the impressiveness of the work and is much to be desired, but that it is being introduced at some points where it detracts rather than adds to the ritual. We do not want the music to be so pronounced that it is made the chief feature.

"I recommend that the Grand Lodge order the discontinuance in this jurisdiction of the use of the stereopticon of the costuming of the Fellow-Crafts, that the subject of the introduction of music into our ritual be considered by a committee and that exemplifications of the work be made obligatory in each District annually, or at least once in two years."

The new officers were installed at the Stated Communication, held on December 27, 1895, it being the 162nd anniversary. At the Grand Feast, which always in Massachusetts accompanies the Installation, the following were the formal toasts :

"(1) To the memory of the holy Saints John. Let us ever keep in view their teachings and practise their virtues.

"(2) To the memory of our illustrious Brother, George Washington.

"(3) To the memory of our beloved Brethren who have passed on to the Celestial Lodge.

"(4) To the Craft wheresoever dispersed over the face of the globe. May peace, prosperity, and good-will ever abide amongst our Brethren."

The speeches made on these occasions are published in full in the Proceedings, and form very interesting reading. We regret that we have not space to reproduce some of the numerous choice gems which appear on the record. The brethren who attend these festivals always hear something which is worthy of note, and which sends them forth with renewed spirit and zeal for the Fraternity.

Lodges, 234; members, 35,913; increase, 1,210.

Edwin B. Holmes (Boston) G. M.

Sereno D. Nickerson (Boston), G. S.

MICHIGAN.

52nd Communication, Saginaw, January 28, 1896.

Edwin L. Bowring, G. M.

The Grand Master congratulates the Grand Lodge on the steady growth in their membership, the zeal of the officers, the increased proficiency in the work, the building of new temples, and the decided improvement in the lodge rooms. He mentions the death of P. G. M. Michael Shoemaker, who was a prominent figure in Masonry for nearly fifty years. He granted dispensations for two new lodges and refused five other applications.

The Grand Secretary "drops into poetry permiscus," his entire report being in verse and of all shades and kinds of rhythm and metre.

Fifty-two Lodges of Instruction were held, with a total attendance of 10,065, the largest ever experienced.

The revised ceremonies are to have a year's trial before being presented for adoption.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

A resolution was again proposed to take over and provide for the support of the Masonic Home by the Grand Lodge, but it was again defeated by a vote of 510 to 573. Another proposal to tax each lodge one dollar for every degree conferred for the benefit of the Home was also lost. The Home was nearly closed in July last, having thirty inmates and only $500 on hand, but the lodges and brethren subscribed on a special appeal the sum of $3,558.08, which kept them going till January. The committee reported that the Home could not be properly sustained for another year by voluntary subscriptions. The present cost per capita with thirty inmates is

$15 per month, say $5,000 per year, and in view of the adverse action of the Grand Lodge it looks like as if the institution must be closed.

The following report was adopted :

" Your committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to the History of Freemasonry in Michigan, now in course of preparation by our Grand Secretary, Brother Jefferson S. Conover, respectfully submit the following report :

" We most heartily concur in the opinion of the Grand Master in commending this history to the Craft of Michigan. The work is of great importance to every truth-seeking and history-loving brother in this state, containing as it does a comprehensive and complete narration of the early struggles and present greatness of our beloved institution. Every reading Mason, lodge or library should have a copy of the work, and Brother Conover is entitled to the plaudit, 'well done, good and faithful servant,' for his valuable services to the Craft, in placing within the reach of all the history of Freemasonry in the state.

" Your Committee recommend the adoption of this resolution :

" *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge sanction and approve of the publication of the History of Freemasonry in Michigan, by Grand Secretary Conover, and cheerfully recommend that every lodge extend to him its aid and support to enable him to complete this valuable work."

The Grand Secretary has a very much condensed report on Correspondence, in which, however, Canada for 1895 finds a place.

Lodges, 381 ; members, 37.706 ; increase, 1,003.

John J. Carton (Flint), G M.

Jefferson S. Conover (Coldwater), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

43rd Communication, St. Paul, January 15, 1896.

Calvin M. Brown, G. M.

As an instance of desirable promptness, which reflects great credit on the Grand Secretary, we may mention that we received these Proceedings on the 12th February, less than a month from the close of the session.

The address of the Grand Master is able and interesting. He issued dispensations for three new lodges. He reports the past year as an uneventful one. Evidence of a departing panic and returning good times and a consequently encouraged people is seen on every hand. On foreign relations he says :

" The friendly relations between this and other grand jurisdictions still continue. Nothing has, and it is hoped that nothing will, occur to mar those relations. Recent events tending to disturb the peace between the government of this country and that of England, have brought expressions and sentiments of peace and good will from the

fraternity of England and this country in no uncertain tone; and it is gratifying indeed to note the unanimity that prevails on the subject. We anticipate no serious trouble between the two greatest and most highly enlightened nations of the age, and confidently predict that the differences now existing between them will be amicably and peaceably adjusted. "It has been truly said that 'Masonry should unite the people of all nations, creeds, and opinions.'" Peace and harmony is a mission of the order, and should be invoked both within and without its gates, between its votaries, and those without its fold, and even between nations and governments of the world. In time of peace we should strive to preserve and continue those sentiments and conditions best calculated to insure harmony between men; and in time of war, and while in the performance of his duty to the government of the country in which he lives, the Mason will never lose sight of or forget the principles of friendly and brotherly love existing between members of the masonic world, and will, on the battle-field, bind up the wounds of the afflicted and injured brother enemy, bear tenderly his remains to the grave, and send greetings and messages of kindness and gifts of charity and benevolence to his distressed widow and needy orphan."

We also copy his very excellent remarks on the unmasonic course pursued by some misguided brethren in electioneering for office:

"This is a subject about which much has been said by members of this Grand Lodge during the past three or four years, and about which much more could be said and done with profit. Most Masons believe that it is unmasonic to ask for an office, or to decline one when elected to it. In a masonic lodge is the place where the brethren should seek the candidate, and not the candidate, or his supporters, the brethren. Official preferment here should be reserved for, and bestowed upon, those who show themselves best qualified and equipped to discharge the duties of the office; upon those who have shown themselves most interested and devoted to Masonry and to the welfare of the Grand Lodge, and not upon those most skilled and qualified in manipulating elections. Electioneering for office in a masonic body is undignified and unmasonic. It is a menace to the prosperity of any organization or society like ours, and should be scorned and 'frowned down' by all true members When we hear of such a thing as a caucus being held in a room adjacent to this one, it is time for us to pause and enquire, whence are we drifting? When, the moment the Grand Lodge is at refreshment, or even informally at rest, the work of electioneering for office begins, and is continued until order is called, it is very proper that we call to those thus engaged to begone with their solicitations and suggestions. It is believed that the Grand Lodge may be trusted to select competent and worthy brothers to fill the several offices, and that the services of those who appear much concerned that it may not do so are wholly unnecessary. I make this simple mention of the subject that the brethren may be warned before it is too late."

The Grand Secretary has completed his Grand Lodge Register, containing 30,000 names, all properly indexed and arranged. He can now tell at a glance the name of every member belonging to each of the lodges, and give his Masonic

history, and he can also give the names and history of all former members. Truly a good work.

The following resolution was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge views with dsiapprobation the growing evil of giving publicity to the transactions of masonic bodies and the business of the fraternity through the medium of the public press, and condemns the same as absolutely unmasonic."

Fraternal greetings were ordered to be sent to the Grand Lodge of England in the following terms :

"To the M. W. the United Grand Lodge of England :

"The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Minnesota in annual communication assembled and representing over 15,000 members of our common fraternity, extends fraternal greeting to the M. W. the United Grand Lodge of England,and the assurance of their earnest desire that the spirit of unity and fraternity which now prevails between them and the great nations of which they are citizens may never be severed, and the confidence that all difficulties of whatever nature arising between the two nations will be adjusted in such a manner as shall comport with the dignity and honor of both nations, and be in harmony with that spirit of humanity which characterizes the civilization of the world to-day."

Bro. Irving Todd again reports on Correspondence and reviews our Proceedings of 1895.

They have a Masonic Veteran Association in Minnesota, composed of Masons in good standing, and of twenty-one years of Masonic age, resident within the State, who may petition to become such. The admission fee is five dollars, which includes the badge of membership and certificate, and there are no annual dues. They have now 185 active members and twenty honorary members. Their transactions are printed as an appendix to the Grand Lodge Proceedings, and they form by far the most entertaining part of the volume. We regret that our space will not allow us to give full extracts, but we must find room for an account of a visit to our own Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem. In response to the second toast, "The Orient and the Holy Land through a Mason's Spectacles," Bro. Dwight M. Baldwin, of Red Wing, spoke in part as follows :

"Last February I was one of a party of seventy Masons, who, under the guidance of Bro. Frank C. Clark, a member of Mother Solomon Lodge, No. 293, of Jerusalem, sailed from New York on the steamer "Friesland" for a trip to the Holy Land and the East. A landing of a few hours was made at the Bermudas, where the party was informally and pleasantly welcomed by the members of Bermuda Preceptory. Passing over the incidents of the voyage, Cairo was reached, where we were invited by the Grand Master to an informal reception at his residence, which about thirty-five of us attended. We were most cordially received, and welcomed by the

Grand Master and some twelve or fifteen of his "staff," or prominent Masons. This was a very pleasant and interesting but novel experience to most of us, as with but one or two exceptions none of our entertainers spoke English; and our hearty and fraternal greetings were exchanged more by the unspoken forms peculiar to the craft than by words. The resident brethren were in what we call evening or full dress, and all wore the inevitable fez. We exchanged cards, but as theirs were printed in Arabic or Turkish, we were none the wiser as to the owner's name after receiving them. Elegant refreshments of the style pertaining to the country were served, including a bountiful supply of Turkish cigarettes. Speeches of welcome were made in French and Arabic, which Brother Clark interpreted to us, and to which he responded in our behalf We departed highly pleased with our first visit to our brethren in the 'land of the Pharaohs.'

"From Jaffa to Jerusalem our itinerary called for the trip to be made by the railway, but through the courtesy of Brother Clark a few of us were assigned to carriages, and journeyed along the old road across the plain of Sharon, through Ramleh and many other places of great historical interest, up the mountains of Judea, where we attained an elevation of 2,500 feet above the Mediterranean, and arrived at Jerusalem on nearly the same level. I doubt if there is another public highway on the face of the globe that has been so long and so constantly used, and is so replete with historical associations, as that old road from Jaffa to Jerusalem. 'The timbers were felled in the forests of Lebanon, conveyed by sea in floats to Joppa, from thence by land to Jerusalem.' They were hauled over that road. It is now nearly eight hundred years since the crusaders took the same route on their march to redeem the 'Holy City.' Jaffa has always been the principal seaport and commercial gateway to Jerusalem, and notwithstanding the innovation and competition of the railway there is still much traffic in the primitive way over the old road. We met several camel and donkey trains on their way to the port. The roadbed is kept in excellent condition, but the climb up the mountains is very steep and laborious.

"At Jerusalem the most interesting Masonic feature of the cruise was the special arrangement that Brother Clark had made with his lodge and the authorities at Jerusalem for holding a lodge in 'King Solomon's Quarries' under the city. The lodge, Mother Solomon, No. 293, is held under a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and among the names inscribed thereon as charter members is that of our honored and lamented brother 'Rob' Morris. The lodge is not strong, either in numbers or in means. They have only about twenty-four members, and there is very little available material in that country for growth. They have no regular hall, but hold their meetings in the parlors of the Howard Hotel; the proprietor, Brother Howard, being one of their active and efficient members. The members are: Bro. Wm. H. Kyatt, Worshipful Master; Bro. George M. Cattem, Senior Warden; P. M. Bro. J. Lyons, Junior Warden; and Bro. C. N. Tadros, Secretary. I do not think that they ordinarily have any use for a treasurer, and I heard no brother's name mentioned in that capacity. Brothers Kyatt, Cattem and Tadros are connected with the British legation. Brother Lyons has charge of the dispensary in an English charitable hospital. The lodge held three special meetings in the quarries during the week we were in and about Jerusalem. They were the first that had been

held since the lodge was chartered, many years ago. Brother Tadros had copies printed of the minutes of the second meeting, which was held on March 6th, giving the names of all present, the stations filled by some at the meeting, and the location of their Masonic homes. He presented us with copies, and these are treasured remembrances of the occasion. The entrance to the quarries, which was discovered as late as 1852, is on the north side of the city, a short distance east of the Damascus Gate. It is a comparatively small opening, cut in the natural rock which forms the foundation of that portion of the wall of the city. It is protected by a heavy door and guarded by Turkish soldiers; as the government officials are very suspicious of the 'Christian dogs' who come as visitors. It requires a pass, accompanied by a liberal supply of 'backsheesh,' to gain admission. It is said the Moslems are afraid the city might be blown up if an opportunity were given.

"It was stated among our party that Brother Clark had to pay the authorities fifty pounds sterling for a permit to enter and to hold our meetings. The descent is rather steep after entering the quarries, the floor or bottom rough and uneven, and covered with an endless quantity of stone chips, and on the sides are great blocks of stone, some lying detached from the rock, partly dressed, and surrounded with masses of chips; others only partly detached. As can be readily seen, the process of separating the blocks from the solid rock was by cutting openings, driving in dry wooden wedges, and then wetting them, which caused them to swell. All the different stages of the process of getting out the stones are visible, and niches are to be seen cut in the rock where the workmen set their lamps. Solid columns of rock are left at intervals to support the vast roof, but in some places pieces have become detached and fallen from the roof to the floor. It is an immense cavern, and vast quantities of material must have been taken out to form so large a space. The rock is a light cream-colored sandstone, without visible seams, and comparatively easy to work. Each member of our party was provided with a lighted candle. We went down a long distance, and finally halted and opened the lodge on a huge mound of chips. It seemed to me we had gone in at least a quarter of a mile, and I was informed that we were about six hundred feet perpendicularly under the city. It was a most wonderful sight, and an experience never to be forgotten by any who were so fortunate as to participate. I do not know how far the quarries extend, as we made no explorations beyond the place where we held the lodge meetings; but when we were about the city and on the site of the Temple, and descended into those vast substructures called 'Solomon's Stables,' we were shown where there had been a large opening—long since walled up by the Turks—which the guides informed us was once an entrance to the quarries. It certainly seems to confirm the narrative of the building of the Temple, that 'the stones were hewed, squared, and numbered in the quarries where they were raised.'

"During our sojourn in Jerusalem the members of Mother Solomon Lodge extended to us every fraternal kindness within their power. They held meetings for our reception and entertainment on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, in the parlors of Brother Howard's hotel. At the last meeting each of the visitors was presented with a set of gavels, manufactured expressly for the purpose from the celebrated olive wood of Jerusalem. They were beautiful and very appropriate souvenirs. We brought them home, and in most instances presented

them to our respective lodges, although I have noticed in the masonic periodicals that, in some instances, they have been presented to Grand Lodges. In token of our appreciation, and in consideration of their weak financial condition, we, in turn, raised a purse to form the nucleus of a fund to assist our far-off brothers in securing a masonic home."

Lodges, 202; members, 15,065; increase, 487.
James F. Lawless (St. Paul), G. M.
Thomas Montgomery (St. Paul), G. S.

MISSISSIPPI.

78th Communication, Jackson, February 20, 1896.
James T. Harrison, G. M.

Masonry in this jurisdiction is prospering and their increase is only from the best element of the commonwealth. On the liquor question the Grand Master says:

"The W. M. of Aberdeen Lodge No. 32 reported that a member of said lodge had openly engaged in the liquor traffic, and asked what course to pursue. I notified him to have the offending brother tried, and, unless repentance followed, and he quit the business put under the ban by the Grand Lodge, to expel. All this was done and promptly, and I commend this prompt compliance with the law by this worthy lodge to all other subordinate lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction.

"Summit Lodge No. 231 reported through several of its members that the W. M. had left the State and was engaged in the wholesale liquor business in Cincinnati, Ohio, and asked for instructions how to proceed in the premises. Referred the question to Committee on Law, as I thought the matter properly belonged to them and I wished to avoid any conflict of jurisdiction. Again, I was mindful of the fact that said committee recommended the rule to the Grand Lodge at its last meeting. I thought it best that they put their interpretation on it for the future guidance of the craft.

"Said rule being adopted as recommended, without amendment, reads as follows:

"'No Mason, either as principal, agent, employee, or in any other 'capacity, shall sell intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, 'and the penalty therefor shall be expulsion.' The majority of the committee interpreted this to mean that the words 'to be used as a 'beverage' permitted wholesale dealing. Bro. Paxton dissented, and I am bound to believe that his is the proper construction. I remember when the resolution was offered in the Grand Lodge and this point was not discussed. In fact it was adopted without debate. My firm conviction is that it never would have passed had it been thought that it was intended or even liable to have such construction. Why convict for a less offence and let the greater evil go unpunished? I suggest that the Grand Lodge pass upon and settle this vexed question."

The Grand Lodge of Oklahoma was recognized.
Two new lodges were formed.

In the excellent report of the Grand Secretary, we find the following on their charitable institutions:

"The Natchez Protestant Orphan Asylum continues to be the object of generous solicitude on the part of this Grand Lodge, but the other fraternal orders are coming nobly to its assistance. The Thanksgiving offerings of last November amounted to something over two thousand dollars; but as the monthly expense is about three hundred dollars, and 'blessed charity' the only dependence, it is not difficult to appreciate the anxious concern of the good ladies who have it in charge. On the occasion of my last visit to the Asylum, the lady managers were all present, and many plans discussed, and enlargements and improvements proposed, but the stern necessity of daily subsistence forbid expenditures in other directions. If one thousand dollars could be applied to repairs and improvements, the Asylum could very easily take twenty-five or thirty more children.

"During the past year twenty-nine of the inmates found good homes in different parts of the State, and their places in the Asylum were at once filled by others. Two little boys for whom the Asylum has cared for several years, are the heirs of a considerable estate in Arkansas, and have been transferred to the care of relatives in that State, upon the assurance that a suitable guardian had been appointed.

"I submit herewith a grateful letter from the lady managers, coupled with a proposition to tender the Asylum to the ownership and control of this Grand Lodge. The property is worth fifteen or twenty thousand dollars. Perhaps the time has not yet come for considering the location of the proposed Widows' and Orphans' Home, but the Asylum property at Natchez would certainly be a good nucleus for establishing the Home at an early day.

"In this connection I venture the suggestion that the per capita for the Home Fund might be increased. In Kentucky, when the per capita for the Home in Louisville was fixed for fifty cents, there was much 'kicking,' but when the Home was built and occupied with over two hundred or more children, and when the first Grand Lodge that met in Louisville after the opening of the Home witnessed the result of its benefaction, the per capita was promptly increased to $1.00, and there is no contribution more cheerfully paid by the big-hearted brethren of the Blue Grass State. I feel sure that if the matter was properly presented to the lodges an increase of fifty cents would be cheerfully voted; and thus the erection of the Widows' and Orphans' Home would not be deferred until some time in the coming century. One of the Correspondence reviewers of our proceedings has very pertinently said: 'A great jurisdiction like Mississippi ought to do greater things than twenty cent per capita for so great and grand an object.'"

The Grand Lodge of Victoria was recognized.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented a lengthly report against the assumption of the prerogative of a Grand Master to make Masons at sight, arguing that his prerogative does not exist and has not existed since 1717, when the reorganization of the Craft took place and all prior rights and prerogatives were surrendered and subordinated to the regulations of the General Assembly or Grand Lodge. They

presented the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the prerogative of making a Mason at sight does not exist by virtue of any landmark or ancient regulation, and is not conferred by the Constitution or Laws of this Grand Lodge."

The wholesale liquor selling referred to by the Grand Master was condemned by the adoption of the following report:

"Your Special Committee on the 'Liquor Question,' referred to by the M. W. Grand Master in his address, fraternally submit the following report:

"That the expression of this Grand Lodge for years has been uniformly against the reception of petitions from persons engaged in the liquor traffic, and pronounces the penalty of expulsion against members who engage in the liquor traffic, and whatever may be the wording of the rule cited by the Grand Master, your Committee believe the rule was intended to exclude and does exclude ALL persons engaged in selling liquor, either by wholesale or retail."

Bro. Andrew H. Barkley presented another of his excellent reports on correspondence, in which Canada for 1895 is accorded due mention.

Lodges, 261; members, 8,891; increase, 96.

James F. McCool (Kosciusko), G. M.

J. L. Power (Jackson), G. S.

MISSOURI.

75th Communication, Jefferson City, Oct. 15, 1895.

J. B. Thomas, G. M.

He visited a number of the lodges and assisted them in the work. He granted dispensations for the formation of six new lodges. He held seven State Lodges of Instruction, which were all well attended, except two, and he thinks that they were successful and productive of much good to the Fraternity. He refused all requests to confer degrees out of time.

The reports of the District Deputies show gratifying results of their labors and that the Craft is in a healthy and prosperous condition.

We copy one of the decisions of the Grand Master, with which we agree, although it is contrary to the ruling of our own Grand Lodge:

"A Brother asks: 'Will I be sustained if I refuse to obligate a candidate who refuses to swear, but persists in affirming?"

"*Decision*—Let him affirm. An affirmation is as binding as an oath; all civilized countries that I know of recognize an affirmation in all courts. And an individual would be guilty of perjury at common law for falsely testifying when affirming the same as if he had sworn. The London *Freemason's Quarterly* (1828, p. 286) says that

'A Quaker's affirmation is binding.' Brother Chase (Masonic Digest, p. 448) says that "Conferring the degrees on affirmation is no violation of the spirit of Freemasonry, and neither overthrows or affects a landmark.' And in this he is sustained by the Grand Lodge of Maine."

Their Masonic Home continues to do good work. Their old people find much confort in their new quarters, away from the noise and prattle of the younger members of the family. The building was a gift from Bro. Norman J. Coleman. The report of the Superintendent proceeds:

"Our register shows that one hundred and forty have been received into the Home since its establishment out of the one hundred and forty-five admitted, five not having come to the Home since their election; forty-nine have been discharged, leaving ninety-one in the Home at present—forty-three girls, twenty-eight boys, thirteen old ladies, seven old brethren. We have received into the Home during the year twenty-nine; discharged nine. Sixty-three of our children are enrolled in the public schools; the majority are making satisfactory progress in their studies, and nearly all have excellent rating for conduct. We believe, however, in Home schooling for an institution like ours, and regret that we are not so situated as to have our children taught at the Home. Five girls and one boy were taught stenography last winter, and they are continuing to practice it. Four of the six are very proficient. The boy, James Farrar, has a position in the law office of W. Bro. Dorsey Jamison. Three of the girls filled temporary positions satisfactorily during vacation. Another of our older boys has a position in the Missouri Pacific machine shops, learning the trade of a machinist. He is a hard worker, and we have much hope in his success."

The Home Visiting Committee was authorized to constitute a committee of an equal number of ladies to assist them in their duties.

The Grand Secretary has a thorough review of our proceedings of 1894, from which we make the following extract:

"The report of the Grand Secretary, Brother Mason, was brief and business like. It showed that the income for the year had been some $19,000. Our Canadian brethren always come to the front on benevolent lines. Indeed, it is a characteristic of English Masons always to dispense, in a liberal way, Masonic charity. Some three hundred beneficiaries had been relieved, the total amount thus expended being nearly $10,000. The most remarkable and striking feature about the Journal under review is the extended and highly interesting reports of the various District Deputy Grand Masters. These reports cover one hundred and seventy pages of the Journal, and furnish some mighty interesting reading. From them the condition of Masonry in the entire jurisdiction is gathered, and is shown to be in a most satisfactory condition generally. These efficient officers of the Grand Lodge received merited approval from the Board on the Condition of Masonry. Said Board stated that it was a matter of congratulation to notice the condition of prosperity. If the District Deputies in all the jurisdictions were as faithful, prac-

tical and zealous as these Canadian officials, the results flowing therefrom would be simply wonderful."

Lodges, 563; members, 30,728; increase, 228.

A. M. Hough (Jefferson City), G. M.

John D. Vincil (St. Louis), G. S.

MONTANA.

31st Communication, Helena, Oct. 9, 1895.

James H. Monteath, G. M.

The year was comparatively uneventful, and they have enjoyed their full average measure of peace, harmony and prosperity. Two new lodges were formed.

The Grand Secretary sounds a note of warning on their financial position. He says:

"Those who will study our financial situation will readily see that we are approaching a crisis. We can not reduce revenue and keep up the same rate of expenditures without reaching soon the deplorable and humiliating condition of our National Government."

After a variety of motions, it was voted that the Grand Lodge would not at present fix any permanent place of meeting.

The dues were reduced from $2 to $1.50.

The following resolution was adopted:

"No lodge shall admit a visitor without due inquiry or examination, nor if there be, in the opinion of the Master, a valid objection to such admission by a member of the lodge."

Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not liable for dues.

There is only one ballot for the three degrees.

Grand Lodge banquets were condemned in strong terms, as interfering with the work of Grand Lodge, and placing an unnecessary burden upon the craft in the cities where the session is held.

In his review of Canada for 1894, Bro. Cornelius Hedges says:

"About one-half of its current income is paid out in benevolence, chiefly to Masons' widows, in sums from $10 to $20. This is a class of beneficiaries for which the Asylum is not intended.

"The reports of District Deputies of the eighteen Masonic Districts fill 168 pages, and it is like a tour of inspection to read these detailed accounts of particular lodges. This system of district deputies seems to work like a charm in Canada, but it proved a failure with us, in our attempt to naturalize it. When each lodge sees its work and standing compared with others, we should think it would result in a warm contention for increased excellence. It is no small matter for the Board of General Purposes to condense the substance of these district reports, nor should we think, where published in

full, that more was needed than to bring forward such items as required action.

"The iniquity of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected material finds no tolerance in Canada.

"For so large a jurisdiction there were very few appealed cases, and justice is admirably dispensed."

In his notice of Alabama.we find the following:

"It surprises us the more that he should characterize what Grand Master Morris said on silver as having 'a profane, political source, offensive to Masonic nostrils.' If such an enconomic question of universal interest is to be discarded because political parties have taken hold of it, then Masons should discard Masonry, for that was once a political foot-ball, and may be again. The degradation of silver from its rank and function as a money metal is regarded by our people of all parties as a crime, against which they will protest always and everywhere."

Lodges, 39: members, 2,491; increase, 137.

James H. Mills (Helena), G. M.

Cornelius Hedges (Helena), G. S.

NEBRASKA.

38th Communication, Omaha, June 12, 1895.

John A. Ehrhardt, G. M.

He issued dispensations for seven new lodges.

Owing to the failure of crops, many of the brethren were sorely distressed. Money was borrowed from the Masonic Home Fund to relieve their pressing necessities, and all in need were cared for. Tenders of assistance were received from many other jurisdictions, but while thanking all for their active Masonic benevolence, the offers were fraternally declined. It was their ambition to care for their own membership.

The Grand Secretary reports that returns were received from all the the lodges, and the jurisdiction is to be congratulated on so excellent a showing under present conditions. During the twelve years since their rebate system was adopted, but six returns in all have failed to arrive before Grand Lodge opened.

The Grand Custodian held 25 lodges of instruction of three days each (with one or two exceptions), and reached in this way the representatives of 116 lodges. Nearly all the lodges manifested great interest in the work, but uniformity is not yet secured.

The following report from the special committee on relief was adopted:

"Your special committee on relief fraternally report that we have examined the plan adopted by our Grand Master for extending relief, and most heartily approve the same.

"His labors were most arduous and the thanks of hundreds of grateful hearts will be an everlasting reward most richly deserved.

"We recommend that the time of payment of the notes given by the subordinate lodges to the Grand Lodge be extended to a time not later than October 1, 1896 (whenever the proper representations and requests be made to the Grand Master). We recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to accept and credit upon the note, any payment whenever made in amount not less than five dollars.

"We have examined the applications that are on file with the Grand Master, which were not filled for want of funds, and recommend that they be referred to the incoming Grand Master."

The Grand Secretary has an excellent "Review of the Proceedings of Fellow Grand Lodges." In his notice for Canada for 1894, he says:

"From the Grand Secretary's statements we learn that this Grand Lodge has a general fund of about $70,000, and an asylum fund of about $20,000, of which $75,000 is invested at four and a half and five per cent. interest; the expenditure by Grand Lodge this year, 'on account of benevolence,' amounts to over $8,000—*eight thousand dollars*—in sums from $5 to $75, with another thousand in large sums, besides over $3,000 expended by local boards of relief; $9,500 was appropriated for relief during the coming year. Next June (we are writing in February) we will be congratulating one another in Grand Lodge on having expended a few thousand dollars for relief because of the first general failure of crops in the western half of Nebraska since we came in April, 1875; but here is a Grand Lodge that in no great emergency, seemingly as a matter of course, expends over $9,000 in one year and expects to the next. Perhaps some explanation of this vigorous relief work may be found in the detailed and thorough reports of the eighteen District Deputy Grand Masters in the lodges of the jurisdiction, which reports cover one hundred and seventy pages of this pamphlet. These reports are the more valuable because they give facts with few opinions. One of these officials called on the non-affiliated in his district, and induced many of them to join lodges. These reports are reviewed and summarized in a ten-page report by the committee on the 'Condition of Masonry,' which is interesting and instructive."

Lodges, 222; members, 11,770; increase, 284.
Henry H. Wilson (Lincoln), G. M.
William R. Bowen (Omaha), G. S.

NEVADA.

31st Communication, Reno, June 11, 1895.
P. A. Doyle, G. M.

He was only asked for one decision, which shows that the lodges are in the hands of competent officers. In his visits to the lodges he has always seen good work. He regrets to state that their membership is growing smaller. He recommends attention to their financial position, and suggests the

omission of the report on Correspondence and the reduction of the salary of the Grand Secretary.

Both these recommendations were carried out, and the Grand Lodge will now be able to meet all their engagements.

The Mississippi jurisdictional rules were not concurred in.

On the question of the necessity of every member signing the by-laws, the following report was adopted:

"Upon reference to 'Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry,' we quote, viz.: XV. 'Initiation makes a man a Mason, and when he receives the degree of Master Mason he becomes a member of the lodge conferring it.'

"Our own Grand Lodge Constitution (Part V, Article I,) reads as follows, viz.: 'Of membership, Section 107. Membership in a lodge may be acquired: 1st. By having regularly received the degree of Master Mason therein.'

"'Digest of Decisions, 45,' reads as follows, viz.: 'Membership. Any brother raised to the Third Degree * * * or elected to membership in a lodge, is a member thereof, entitled to all the rights and privileges as such, without having signed the lodge by-laws, regardless of any provision of the lodge by-laws apparently to the contrary.'

"In view of the foregoing, your committee are of the opinion that after a candidate has received the degree of Master Mason in a lodge it is not necessary for him to sign the by-laws in order to become a member thereof.

"The uniform code of by-laws adopted by this Grand Lodge, Article IV, Section 3, makes it obligatory upon every person raised to the degree of Master Mason, or elected a member of the lodge, to sign the by-laws, and for a failure or refusal to do so, at the request of the lodge, he should be dealt with in the same manner as for a violation of any other by-law."

Lodges, 19; members, 847; decrease, 66.

John C. Hazlett (Dayton), G. M.

Chauncey N. Noteware (Carson City), G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

28th Communication, St. John, Sept. 26, 1895.

Thomas Walker, G. M.

He mentions the death of one of their brightest ornaments, M. W. Bro. B. Lester Peters, who was their first Grand Master in 1867.

The reports of the District Deputies do not show any sensational activity in the Craft, yet sufficient appears to cause thankfulness for the mercies vouchsafed to them during the year.

On the Wisconsin relief proposition the Grand Master says:

"I am asked to submit this proposition to you for your action, and I do so with this single remark, that charity which seeks for a

return and confines itself to those of our own house is not to me the charity taught us in the lodge, but would seem to reduce our Craft to the level of a modern assessment association."

The following report was adopted :

"The Committee on Relations with Foreign Grand Lodges report that they have considered the conclusions of the Chicago Masonic Congress, and certain uniform rules as to jurisdiction over candidates prepared by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, submitted to Grand Lodge at the last annual session in the address of the Grand Master, and referred to this Committee for a report thereon at this session.

"As the Chicago Congress was not a law-making power, but merely a conference of well-informed brethren, its conclusions have no legal effect, but are of value in helping governing Masonic bodies to reach correct decisions upon the questions treated of as they arise. This Grand Lodge has steadily declined to express opinions upon propositions of Masonic law not arising out of actual cases occurring within its jurisdiction. Therefore, in the opinion of your Committee, nothing more is necessary than what has been done, *i. e.*, to print the conclusions for general information without either accepting or disputing them. The same reasoning applies to the propositions of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. The laws governing the admission of candidates for Free Masonry in this jurisdiction, if properly carried out, appear to be ample to protect ourselves as well as sister jurisdictions, and under existing circumstances the Committee think Grand Lodge will not fail in courtesy to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi if for the present further action is not deemed necessary.

"With regard to the invitation from the Grand Orient of Italy to participate in the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Italian occupancy of Rome, the Committee approve of the action of the Grand Master. Our Grand Lodge is not in fraternal relation with the Grand Orient of Italy, and the celebration being of a civil and political character is outside the sphere of action in which this Grand Lodge, as such, interests itself."

The Grand Master of Prince Edward Island, M. W. Bro. Roderick McNeill, was present and addressed the Grand Lodge on the propriety of establishing a Masonic home for aged and infirm Masons in the Maritime Provinces. A resolution was passed for the appointment of a committee to consider the subject in conjunction with similar committees from the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Lodges, 31 ; members, 1,764 ; decrease, 24.

Julius T. Whitlock (St. Stephen), G. M.

Freeman W. Wisdom (St. John), G. S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

106th Communication, Concord, May 15, 1895.

Charles C. Hayes, G. M.

Prosperity prevails. A lot has been secured in Manchester for a Masonic home. In this jurisdiction it is not necessary

for a visiting brother to show a diploma before admission to a lodge.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge grants permission for any Lodge under its jurisdiction to permit the Chapters of the Eastern Star to meet in their rooms, should such lodge deem it for the best good of Masonry.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented a lengthy and exhaustive report on the powers of the Grand Lodge over its subordinates, and incidentally to declare what bodies and organizations are regular and lawful in a Masonic sense. Their conclusion is as follows, but it is remarkable for the omission from the list of all Grand Lodges and their subordinates :

" For the purpose of preserving the integrity of our organization and making known to the members of the fraternity its position in relation to the bodies which it regards as rightful and legitimate, the Grand Lodge hereby declares and recognizes as lawful, regular and Masonic the following designated bodies and their subordinates, established within its jurisdiction, namely :

" The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States.

" The Grand Royal Arch Chapters of the several States and Territories of the United States.

" The Royal Arch Chapters and other bodies under their jurisdiction.

" The General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States.

" The Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the several States and Territories of the United States.

" The Councils of Royal and Select Masters under their jurisdiction.

" The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States.

" The Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar of the several States and Territories of the United States.

" The Commanderies of Knights Templars under their jurisdiction.

" The Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, of which Henry L. Palmer is Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.

" The various bodies under the jurisdiction of said Supreme Council, with all the powers, privileges and prerogatives belonging to them, and incident to the enjoyment thereof by them respectively."

Bro. Albert S. Wait again reports on Correspondence. We agree with him that a lodge has absolute power to instruct their representatives how to vote upon questions to come before Grand Lodge and to bind them by such instructions.

Canada for 1894 has a good notice.

In reply to the position of Bro. Drummond, of Maine, that a Grand Lodge may exist without being composed of repre-

sentatives of lodges, Bro. Wait has the following argument, which seems to us conclusive :

"It would have been much more satisfactory if Brother Drummond would have told us what is shown by the 'early records of the Grand Lodges which sprang from Provincial Grand Lodges,' and also by 'the records of other Grand Lodges during Morgan times,' which will illustrate his assumed 'old law.' We have not present leisure to make examinations of the records in general of the American Grand Lodges during the period referred to; we have, however, examined those of our own Grand Lodge covering those times, and so far are they from lending any countenance to our brother's assumption, that they directly contradict it. During all that period the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire held its annual communications, and the number of lodges represented never but once went so low as five. That was in the year 1848. At every other communication but one the number of lodges represented was as high as fifteen. There was never a year during that time when there were not as many as nineteen regularly upon the roll and making returns. Brother Drummond's statement means, if it means anything, that 'during the Morgan times' there were masonic jurisdictions, where Grand Lodges were regularly held, in which there was not a lodge other than the Grand Lodge in existence. As we have already intimated, we do not speak from the record, but, without the record, we challenge, and with every confidence, this statement. Now, as to 'the early records of the Grand Lodges which sprung from provincial Grand Lodges,' we have not examined them and have no suggestion of what precisely they are claimed to prove. We have examined somewhat the history of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, and find it as clearly contradicts our brother's assumption as do the records of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. In the formation of that (Massachusetts) Grand Lodge, in order to comply with the understood requirements of recognized masonic usuage three travelling lodges were called in by St. Andrew's Lodge to take part in the organization. The regular meetings of the Grand Lodge having been suspended in consequence of the opening of the revolution, until February 14th, 1787, a meeting was called at that time, 'to hear petition from several brethren, to erect a lodge at Stockbridge, in the county of Berkshire.' Now this is the record of that meeting: 'But the consideration of this business was deferred, and the Right Worshipful Brother Webb was requested to summons the Masters and Wardens of all lodges within this jurisdiction, to assemble at Boston, take into consideration the state of the Grand Lodge, and act thereon as might be thought proper.' The record proceeds: 'The brethren assembled accordingly and proceeded to the formation of a Grand Lodge, when the officers were elected and invested in due form, viz. * * * Voted, that the prayer of the petition be granted, and that the brethren receive a charter under the title of 'The Berkshire Lodge.'

"It is thus proved, if anything can be proved, that in the early masonry of Massachusetts, from which the masonry of Maine has its origin, there was no other understanding than that there could be no legitimate Grand Lodge without a representation of constituent lodges; and that understanding was followed in their practice. We fee, warranted in asserting that the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, which is invoked in this connection, contemplates

no other view ; and we believe that that of the Grand Lodge of Maine, in its origin, did not. As to 'provisions in the constitutions of Grand Lodges, requiring the representation of a given number of lodges in order for the Grand Lodge to open or do business,' they are probably recent in their inception, but they are not an 'innovation' upon any principle of the masonic institution, in any such invidious sense as is here attributed to them. They assume that a constituency of lodges is essential to the legitimacy of every Grand Lodge, and that assumption is borne out by the manner of the formation of the first Grand Lodge and by the whole current of masonic history since. No body of masons, however assembled, without such a constituency, would as a Grand Lodge be entitled, nor do we believe would be accorded from any quarter, the least consideration. It ought to be, and we believe would be, scouted throughout the masonic world, as a mere rump, and the least respectable at that of any rump assemblage that ever existed. In our opinion such a laugh would be set up at such an assemblage, by the united masonic fraternity, as would cause it to vanish out of sight "

Lodges, 78 ; members, 8,838 ; increase, 94.
Charles C. Hayes (Manchester), G. M.
George P. Cleaves (Concord), G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

109th Communication, Trenton, January 29, 1896.
Charles Belcher, G. M.

Their membership is not only increasing, but is improving socially, morally and intellectually. A higher conception of our symbolism and teaching has had a refining effect upon the members.

The Grand Master exercised his prerogative of making a Mason at sight. The recipient of this honor afterwards affiliated with a lodge.

Bro. Belcher is thoroughly sound in his deprecation of public appearances. We are glad to receive his endorsement of the position we have taken in this matter. His remarks on this subject are well worthy of the closest attention. They display the situation in its true light, and they must commend themselves to all true lovers of our Fraternity :

" A number of requests have been made by various lodges for dispensations for the public installation of officers. Believing that the impressiveness of these beautiful and interesting ceremonies is necessarily curtailed by the presence of outsiders, and that the ritual should be regarded as a portion of our lodge business, intended only for those upon whom Masonic light has been shed, I have invariably refused to grant such requests. These requests are based upon a desire to entertain the friends or families of the members, but underlying such desire is the hope that what is seen will incite or create a desire to see still more of our forms and ceremonies, and thus, in an innocent way, attract material to their lodges. I am aware that the

custom has been handed down and in practice for so many years that it can almost be looked upon as a landmark, but its antiquity does not, to my mind, offer any good reason for its continuance. I cannot believe that the original patrons of Freemasonry countenanced any such practice. The progressive ideas of the present generation have a tendency towards the introduction of many things in connection with our forms and ceremonies that so closely approach to innovations that it is wisdom on our part to call a halt. Our endeavor should be to maintain and retain the simplicity for which our rites bave been notable, and to disclaim and disregard any encroachments upon that simplicity. The opening wedge is where the danger lies and one false step is sure to be succeeded by another. Let us avoid the danger and adhere to the same secrecy in our installation ceremonies, which is a distinctive feature of our ritual, or, if there is no danger attached, let public installations take place without dispensations. Either let them be within the discretion of the lodges or prohibited.

"During the year past I have granted permission to several lodges to attend divine service in Masonic clothing, and in so doing followed precedent established by my predecessors, but against my own conception of propriety. Far be it from me to say aught against or endeavor to curtail these churchly duties, which all good men and Masons should attend to. They never should be neglected, but of what possible spiritual advantage can it be to be clothed with the distinguishing emblems of the Craft? Is it not engendered by a desire to display and publish our connection with the fraternity, and is such display in consonance with that secrecy that surrounds our forms and ceremonies? The 30th General Regulation prohibits any but funeral processions without permission of the Grand Master, and conveys the idea that such processions are not favored. In my opinion they should be prohibited by resolution of the Grand Lodge. Religious instruction can be received without the accompaniment of squares, levels and plumbs, and divine truth will abide in the heart of the devout Mason with as great power, relief and fervor in their absence as it will in their presence. Realizing that such was the case, I have, during the latter part of my administration, invariably refused such permission, and hope that the brethren who desire to pay that national homage to Deity which at once constitutes our duty and happiness, will be able to do so without wearing any distinguishing emblems of the fraternity other than a pure heart and a charitable spirit."

A motion to prohibit the use of robes or costumes in conferring the degrees was indefinitely postponed.

A new lodge was authorized at Cape May Court House.

They have now a complete collection of the portraits of all the Past Grand Masters since the organization of the Grand Lodge, over 100 years back.

The salary of the Grand Secretary was increased to $2,000, and that of the Chairman of Correspondence was increased from $200 to $300.

The following resolution was adopted, and we think it should be the rule everywhere:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Grand Lodge that the public installations of officers of lodges is contrary to the spirit and teachings of the fraternity and is hereby prohibited."

Bro. George B. Edwards reviews the proceedings of 68 Grand bodies, including Canada for 1895. On Adoptive Masonry, he says:

"Adoptive Masonry was conceived and practiced in France about the middle of the last century. Its growth was prodigious, fanned by the thirst of desire to obtain admission into societies sealed from the public eyes, and said to be a part of the Masonic Order which was to be revealed to woman and which was to place her on the same plane as man, denied to her so long—was too entrancing not to invite the attention of those of all shades of virtue. Although women of the highest class of society were found to take leading parts and become honorary officials, and in some instances active, these were soon driven from the assemblies, and as fashion and the leaders of society stepped out, leaving those more variegated to walk in the parterres of fancy, gathering the sweets of flowers as they wandered, their predominance became asserted, with the consequences of demoralization upon the Masons who attended, as well as the devotees. The revel-rout soon assumed the license found in the misprinted version of A. D. 1631, which caused the edition to be known as the 'Wicked Bible'; the practices being from modernity probably only less in enormity than met the astonished gaze of Moses, when he beheld the congregation, on his descent with the tables of stone.

"Far be it from this reviewer to intimate that these androgynous assemblies of the present day are like those of old, or may ever tend that way, but desires that the history of the past may be made known and aid in the relinquishment of the present departure from the original plan, and in the beguilment of woman to an annex of Masonry that has no existence in part or fact.

"It is of record in the printed proceedings of 1894 of one of the Grand Lodges that when opened in ample form, and on the third degree of Masonry, it marched in public in an androgynous procession to perform Masonic work. Is it not time to call a halt?"

Lodges, 164; members, 15,686; increase, 441.

George W. Fortmeyer (East Orange), G. M.

Thomas H. R. Redway (Trenton), G. S.

NEW MEXICO.

18th Communication, Albuquerque, Oct. 7, 1895.

J. J. Kelly, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"Notwithstanding the fact that our Territory has suffered from the great business depression of the past three years, I take pleasure in reporting to you that Masonry in this jurisdiction is in a flourishing condition, with every promise of a brighter future.

"No cases have been submitted to me for decision during the year, which speaks well for the officers who have charge of the Craft throughout the jurisdiction."

A new lodge was organized at Clayton. The Grand Master visited a number of lodges and found them in a prosperous condition and fairly well posted in the work adopted by the Grand Lodge.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was referred to the lodges.

Ten per cent. of the income of the Grand Lodge is devoted to the assistance of the proposed National Masonic Home for consumptives at Santa Fe.

The Grand Lodges of Oklahoma and Victoria were recognized.

The following resolution was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge instruct the Masters of the lodges throughout this jurisdiction to deliver the following charges to all newly raised M. Masons :

" ' That it will be necessary for him to commit to memory the first section of the Master's degree and to have a thorough knowledge of the second section.'

" And that the Masters be requested to use their influence in this direction."

Bro. Max. Frost has a good report on correspondence, in which we find a review of our proceedings for 1895.

Lodges, 21 ; members, 883 ; increase, 43.

James H. Wroth (Albuquerque), G. M.

Alpheus A. Keen (Albuquerque), G. S.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proceedings from June, 1894, to June, 1895.

Sir Robert William Duff, G. M.

The matter of printing another edition of the rituals was the subject of a very lengthened debate, and it was resolved that tenders be called for printing 1,000 copies.

In one of his reports the Grand Inspector of Workings says:

" I regret to note that in some lodges there is a total absence of musical service; and in others very indifferently rendered, and would suggest that the brethren generally make an effort to improve this portion of our ceremonies. Especially would I urge upon the Deacons the necessity of making themselves thoroughly conversant with their portion of the work ; as I find that this is generally a weak point in many of the lodges. More care might with advantage be exercised in the matter of preparing candidates for the various degrees."

A special communication was held at Sydney on March 21, 1895, to record the death of their Grand Master, Sir Robert William Duff, the Governor of the Colony, at which appropriate addresses were delivered, and resolutions of condolence were passed.

A letter was received from the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, stating that they had been asked to grant a warrant for a new lodge at Tonga, one of the Friendly Islands in the Pacific, but they would not do so if the Australasian Grand Lodges did not acquiesce, and the reply was returned that the Grand Lodge of New South Wales had no objection.

The following is the report of the Library Committee :

" Your Committee have much pleasure in reporting that during the twelve months they have held office, there has been a marked improvement in the attendance of members and in applications for books, and altogether a greater interest taken in the library, although there is much room for improvement in this direction.

" A circular was sent at the beginning of the year to all the Grand Lodge officers and members of the Boards, asking them to deliver lectures or lecturettes in the library, but as only two replies were received, your Committee did not carry out their intention in this matter.

"The library has been opened 51 evenings during the year, and has had 135 visits from members of the Craft, 70 volumes have been lent to members, many of them country members who cannot attend personally.

" The following works have been added to the library during the year, viz.: All the Proceedings of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, Mackey's Encyclopædia, Brown's Stella Theology, Morgan's Freemasonry, Fellow's Mysteries, The Knights Templar, History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders, Obelisk and Freemasonry, History and Antiquities of Freemasonry, and the books of the Constitutions of 43 Sister Grand Lodges.

" We have also received the Annual Reports of 40 Grand Lodges, the particulars of which will, no doubt, be found fully dealt with in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence."

There are certain irregular bodies in Sydney calling themselves Masonic lodges, and the Craft are warned not to attend them.

The committee on Correspondence consists of five members, all elected by the Grand Lodge by ballot. Bro. Donnelly Fisher is Chairman. The report is a well-compiled synopsis of the Proceedings of 40 Grand Lodges, including Canada for 1894. In the review of the Grand Lodge of Belgium we find the following :

" The aims of Freemasonry in Belgium are somewhat different to what we understand them to be in New South Wales. They are set forth in unmistakeable terms as ' Universal Suffrage,' ' The Representation of Minorites,' ' Compulsory Primary Education,' ' The Abolition of Military Conscription,' and many other political reforms, such as we relegate strictly to the Parliament of the Colony."

Public installations are altogether new to them.

The following is from the notice of England :

" The most interesting matter to us in the Proceedings is the frequently renewed attempt of a few brethren of this colony to main-

tain a lodge not owning the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

"We do not desire to allude at length to this unhappy proceeding, but are pleased to note that the true state of the case was most clearly put before the Grand Lodge of England by our former Grand Master the Earl of Jersey, and a resolution in favor of prompt action to assist the brethren in question in upholding their (alleged) rights was, after a very full discussion, lost."

A special meeting was held to install the new Grand Master, the hon. Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K. C. M. G., M. P., who is also the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Lodges, 197; members, 7,698; decrease, 514.

Arthur H. Bray (Sydney), G. S.

NEW YORK.

114th Communication, New York, June 4, 1895.

John Hodge, G. M.

Four new lodges were formed. "An example in the recent past where a Secretary for two consecutive years succeeded in obtaining from all the members of his lodge the amount of their dues is the best evidence of what can be accomplished by a wide-awake, active officer."

After the payment of all expenses in connection with their Hall and the Home a substantial balance remains. The Grand Master further says:

"It is pleasing to note that one hundred lodges are now meeting in this hall. Every lodge room in the building, with one single exception, is taxed to its fullest capacity for every night in the week. In addition to the lodges meeting here, accommodations are also provided for thirty other bodies, composed of Chapters, Councils and Commanderies. At no time since the erection of the structure has the revenue derived from rentals been as great as now."

On the German Masonic Temple Association and its good work, the Grand Master remarks:

"W. Charles Boss, President of this Association, reports that 23 of the 28 lodges comprising the 28th Masonic District are members of the German Masonic Temple Association.

"From the rentals of the German Masonic Temple, proceeds of festivals, and contributions of individual brethren, this Association maintains a Home for the aged and infirm brethren and widows of Masons at Tappan. All the property of the Association is free from debt, and, notwithstanding the depressed times of the year last past, a substantial balance remains for the charitable work of our brethren of the German-speaking lodges in New York, Kings and Richmond Counties.

"At the festival held on St. John's Day, June 24, 1894, the sum of $1,083.86 was realized.

"Following the custom of the fatherland, a "Trauben Fest" is

annually held at the Home, that of last autumn bringing to the treasury of the Association the sum of $1,637.80.

"Great interest is manifested by all the brethren in carrying on their laudable work, and it is therefore not surprising to be informed that the utmost harmony exists among them.

"No body of Masons within our vast jurisdiction is more worthy or more entitled to the plaudits of this Grand Lodge than our loyal and charitably disposed brethren of the 28th Masonic District."

There are now 115 inmates in the Home. The per capita cost of maintenance for the year is given at $276.32. Very minute details are given of all the finances.

The Grand Lecturer held Conventions in every district, at which the attendance was very gratifying.

A revised Constitution was ordered to be submitted to the lodges.

We copy the following obituary notice of Bro. Robert Macoy, whose name has been as a household word among Masons for many years :

"R. W. Robert Macoy assisted at the burial of W. Bro. Hoole, delivering an eloquent and appropriate address. In less than three weeks from that time Bro. Macoy had followed Bro. Hoole out of 'the seen and temporal, into the unseen and eternal.'

"From his initiation into Freemasonry in 1848, down to the day of his death, he was an intelligent, zealous, consistent, and most worthy member of the Craft. He possessed in large measure the pacific spirit of Masonry, and the greatest grace, that of charity, was beautifully illustrated in all his intercourse with his fellowmen. He was exactly fitted for the important service which he rendered the Fraternity in formulating the basis of settlement, in virtue of which the two belligerent Grand Lodges of the State came into fraternal unity, peace, and harmony; and for two years Bro. Macoy was Deputy Grand Master. In Templar Masonry he has made a remarkable record, holding the office of Grand Recorder for more than forty years. The quiet and undemonstrative usefulness of his life was only equaled by the exceptional beauty, strength, and solidity of his noble character. His scholarly ability has enriched Masonic literature, and many works which bear his honored name will not lose their interest with the passing of the years. The clearness of his thought was well matched by the strength and purity of his style; and his vocabulary was as much characterized by the *quality* as the quantity of its words. There was no trace of self-consciousness in his modest demeanor; no hint of intolerence in thought, word or deed. He loved righteousness and truth, and in his noble manhood they obtain a beautiful and significant illustration. 'He will be missed in all the walks of Masonry, and his words of wisdom will be cherished as a rich legacy.'"

A new rule of order was adopted to the effect that in nominating or seconding the nomination of a Grand Lodge officer, a brother shall not be permitted to speak more than three minutes.

The following additions to the Home were sanctioned :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge authorizes

"(*a*) That the east wing be enlarged and extended, in accordance with the report of the Trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund.

"(*b*) The instalment of necessary additions to the heating plant to make it adequate for the needs of the Home.

"(*c*) That the capacity of the dining-room be enlarged, as recommended by the Trustees.

"(*d*) That a suitable hospital or infirmary be erected as far as practicable, according to plans submitted to them.

"(*e*) That the said improvements and additions be accomplished in the order named, and that the entire cost of the same be paid for out of and from money now on hand other than the $131,000 funded capital, so that the same in any event will remain unimpaired."

Bro. George H. Raymond, who has faithfully served this Grand Lodge as Grand Lecturer for 29 years, was honorably retired and made Grand Lecturer Emeritus with a salary of $1500.

The report of the committee on Jurisprudence of this most important Grand Lodge is always interesting and valuable, and we need make no apology for inserting it here :

"The Committee on Jurisprudence at our last annual Communication, on the application of the Supreme Council of France, A. A. Scottish Rite, for recognition by this Grand Lodge and an exchange of representatives, reported that it was the settled policy of the Grand Lodge of New York to exchange representatives only with independent Grand Lodges of symbolic Masonry.

"The Supreme Council of France (who claim to be entirely independent of and antagonistic to the atheistic doctrines of the Grand Orient of France, which are so unanimously condemned by the Grand Lodges throught the world) do not wish to suffer from the stigma attached to the Grand Orient, and ask to have Master Masons of the obedience of the Supreme Council recognized as regular Masons throughout the world.

"The committee being in full sympathy with this latter request, in view of the importance of the subject as to the position of Masonry in France requested that the whole subject be left in the hands of the Committee on Jurisprudence for full investigation, and report at our next Annual Communication.

"Your committee report that during the past year they are advised that steps have been taken by the lodges of Master Masons under the obedience of the Supreme Council of France, with the concurrence of said Supreme Council, for the formation of an Independent Symbolic Grand Lodge, to have entire control of the first three symbolic degrees, and a convention of the lodges under the jurisdistion of the Supreme Council of France called for the consideration of the subject; but as we are without information of the results attained, we ask a further continuance of the matter in the hands of this committee, in the hope and expectation that we may be able to report the formation of an independent Grand Lodge of Symbolic Masonry in France, and then recommend recognition by the Grand Lodge of New York, with an exchange of representatives.

"Grand Lodge of Norway.—Your committee have carefully examined the papers and documents accompanying the application of this lodge for recognition, and find that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norway has become an independent Grand Lodge for the government of symbolic lodges in Norway, with Major-General Otto Richard Kierulf as its Grand Master, and His Royal Highness, Oscar Gustave Adolf, Crown Prince of Norway and Sweden, as Provincial Grand Master of all the symbolic lodges in this jurisdiction, and acknowledging its government. Their proceedings seem to have been regular, and have been acknowledged as such by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and we cheerfully welcome them as an independent Grand Lodge, and recommend full recognition and exchange of representatives as requested by them.

"The Grand Orient of Italy again asks that the Grand Lodge of New York exchange representatives with them, and in the letter from Grand Master Lemni, thirty-third degree, referred to in the Grand Master's address, dated April 2, 1895, Bro. Lemni says: 'We cannot hide our surprise at hearing from your letter that your Grand Lodge holds that the Grand Orient of Italy is not a sovereign and independent body, but finds itself under the control of the A. and A. Scottish Rite.'"

"We find by reference to the report of the Jurisprudence Committee in 1891 and 1892, that we have never held that the Grand Orient was not a 'sovereign and independent body,' or that it was under the control of the Supreme Council of the A. and A. Scottish Rite.

"In 1892 your committee reported for following, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge, and nothing further heard from the Grand Orient until the letter of April 2, 1895.

"The Grand Orient of Italy renews its application for recognition and an exchange of representatives.

"The papers presented, together with a translation of portions of its constitutions, do not change the opinion of your Committee as reported to our Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, declining their application.

"We find that this Grand Orient is composed of a 'Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree of the Scottish Rite and the Symbolic Grand Lodge for the symbolic rite,' and Section 12 of their General Constitutions declares that.

"Masonic sovereignity lies with the Masonic people as a whole, and is exerted for the government of the three first degrees by the ordinary or extraordinary legislative or constitutive assemblies, composed of the representatives of all the lodges of *both rites*, active and regularly working.

"Section 17 provides that the charters for the lodges of *both rites* are granted exclusively by the Grand Orient.

"This fully confirms the opinion of your Committee as expressed last year, that this Grand Orient is a conglomerate body, composed of a Supreme Council of the thirty-third degree of the A. & A. S. Rite and the Symbolic Grand Lodge of the Symbolic Rite, and is the governing body of lodges of the first three degrees *in either or both rites*.

"We find in the report of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of 1892, that no direct communication of their Proceedings has

been received from them, but we find from our exchanges that from the last reports the 'Grand Orient of Italy at Rome' comprises one hundred and thirty-two St. John subordinate lodges.

"Whenever these subordinate lodges unite in forming a Grand Lodge entirely separate from and independent of the Supreme Council of the A. & A. S. Rite, or any other rite than Symbolic Masonry, this Grand Lodge will cheerfully receive them into the family of independent Grand Lodges and exchange representatives; but we are not prepared to recommend a recognition of the Grand Orient composed of bodies of other rites than Symbolic Masonry.

"From this report, made in 1892, it appears that the Grand Orient was then a *conglomerate body*, composed of a 'Supreme Council of 33° of the A. A. S. Rite and a Grand Lodge of the Symbolic Rite,' and 'was the governing body of lodges of the first three degrees in *either or both rites*.'

"This we find in their constitution then submitted to us, and we have no information that their constitution has been amended and the Supreme Council separated from the Grand Orient.

"Unless their constitution has been amended in this regard, and an entire severance of the governing power of the two rites, we cannot recommend an exchange of representatives, or any change of the decision and report of your Committee adopted in 1892. We must await further advices on this (to us) fundamental point.

"The Committee further report on the resolution offered by Bro. Prime, as to the publication of the proceedings of lodges of F. and A. M. by the public newspapers, and notices of action had by the lodges in their work, especially in the publication of the names of brethren on whom or on whose application work was to be done.

"That your committee has considered the various matters specified in the resolution, and report to this body recommending that the disapproval of the Grand Lodge be and is hereby expressed at the publication in the newspapers of the proceedings of lodges, and that hereafter all such publications be refrained from and forbidden.

"We also recommend that all written or printed notices or communications from the Master or Secretary to the members of a lodge, or any members of the Fraternity, giving names of candidates for degrees, or names of those on whom Masonic degrees have been or will be worked, be forbidden, unless such notices are sent in *sealed* envelopes, properly addressed, and marked '*Strictly Personal*.' And the use of unsealed envelopes or postal cards in transmitting such communications or summons be positively forbidden.

"Morning Star Lodge, No. 65, of Canisteo, Steuben County, in the Twenty-third Masonic District, applies to the Grand Lodge for relief from its present embarrassment, arising from the fact that since the last election and installation of its officers, the Master and Senior and Junior Wardens have removed from the county and district in which the lodge is located, and are consequently unable to attend the communications of the lodge. The question presented is, how can the lodge, in the absence of these three warranted officers, continue its meetings and work? These officers are represented as being ready and willing to do anything within their power to assist the lodge in its dilemma, but they are confronted with Section 12 of the Statutes, which forbids a Master or Warden to resign; and Section 13, which enumerates the *only* cases in which a vacancy in office in a lodge can occur, does not mention removal from the district or state as one of

such cases. Hence we are compelled to hold that the removal of their places of residence by the Master and Wardens of this lodge does not create a vacancy in any of their respective offices.

"The situation is unique, and so far as we are aware, a similar question has never before been presented to this Grand Lodge for determination.

"We are, however unanimously of the opinion that ample power resides in the Grand Master to deal with it. Aside from his inherent power, Article IV of the Constitution, in enumerating the powers and duties of Grand Officers, in Section 23 provides that the Grand Master has power, among other things, to convene any lodge within the jurisdiction, and to preside therein. This power we believe the Grand Master may, in his discretion, by dispensation, delegate to any Past Master of the Lodge, and we therefore recommend that this course be taken in order that Morning Star Lodge may continue its meetings and work."

Bro Jesse B. Anthony presented his seventh report on Correspondence, full of good things as usual. He reviews all the Proceedings of United States and Canada, and a number of foreign countries.

In the review of Illinois, he says:

"We consider there are regular bodies outside of those which can trace their origin back to the British Grand Lodges. The bodies of the York Rite do not embrace the whole of pure and accepted Freemasonry. Lodges which are in the lawful possession of the symbolic degrees have the unquestionable authority to merge their rights and powers in a Supreme Grand Body of Symbolic Masonry, assuming the control of no other degrees, and free from the authority of any Supreme Council As we understand it, this practically represents the organization of the Gran Dieta of Mexico. * * *

"There has been no additional information before the Committee on Correspondence, and had it not been for the charges presented relative to the character of Masonry in Mexico, we should, in our report of 1893, have recommended recognition of the Gran Dieta.

"There is one point made by our brother upon which we should like to be fully satisfied, viz.:

"That 'Clio,' the Master of Maria Alarcon Lodge, No. 27, is Dr. Matilda Montoya, a female physician; 'Caliope' is Mrs De Klienham, mother-in law of Emilio G. Canton, the Grand Secretary of the Gran Dieta; and 'Armonia,' the wife of that functuary, and that these three ladies are office bearers in the Grand Lodge 'Valle de Mexico, No. 1.'"

"This statement based upon information derived from the *Official Boletin* of the Gran Dieta for April, 1893, and its gravity demands that it should be authoritatively denied. It is directly contrary to the statement made by General Agramonte 'that while there are lodges of women similar to the Eastern Star, no lodges under the jurisdiction of the Gran Dieta admitted women.'"

Canada for 1894 has a good notice. To those of our brethren who are fond of statistics the following information will prove interesting:

STATISTICAL COMPARISON.

	1892	1893	1894	1895
Grand Lodges	56	56	57	57
Number of Subordinate Lodges	11,216	11,457	11,676	11,807
Raised	43,345	43,127	42,930	39,524
Affiliated	16,649	16,470	14,807	14,764
Restored	5,900	6,081	5,529	5,316
Died	10,242	10,542	10,278	10,726
Dimitted	20,086	18,372	17,509	16,489
Suspended for non-payment dues	14,113	13,035	13,641	15,052
Suspended and expelled	717	686	676	754
Membership	697,842	723,662	747,492	767,761

"Based upon the tables we find in the Grand Lodges of the United States the following percentages:

	1892	1893	1894	1895
Accessions by new work	6.38	6.17	5.88	5.25
Additions by affiliation and restoration	3.33	3.22	2.82	2.69
Losses by death	1 53	1 51	1.11	1.45
Losses for non-payment of dues	2.02	1.86	1.84	1 99
Losses by dimission	2.84	2.63	2 30	2.25
Net gain of the year	3.46	3.53	3.31	2.54

"In numerical standing the most prominent rank in the following order: New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts, Missouri, Texas, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Kansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, California, etc.

"The average of membership to each lodge is greatest in the following: District of Columbia (205), Connecticut (149), Massachusetts (146), Rhode Island (127), New York (118), Pennsylvania (113), Maine (112), New Hampshire (112), etc.

"The jurisdictions having lodges of the largest membership are in the following order:

Grand Lodge.	Subordinate Lodge		Location.	Membership.
	Name.	No.		
Minnesota	Minneapolis	19	Minneapolis	746
Connecticut	Hiram	1	New Haven	710
New York	Genesee Falls	507	Rochester	651
Illinois	Covenant	526	Chicago	648
Colorado	Denver	5	Denver	600
Michigan	Grand River	34	Grand Rapids	598
District of Columbia	La Fayette	19	Washington, D. C.	567
Pennsylvania	Washington	59	Philadelphia	525
Massachusetts	*Last year's rep't*	...	....	489
California	California	1	San Francisco	477
Ohio	Magnolia	20	Columbus	476

Lodges, 734 ; members, 88,573 ; increase, 2,359.
John Stewart (New York), G. M.
Edward E. M. Ehlers (New York), G. S.

NEW ZEALAND.

Annual Communication, Wellington, April 25, 1894.
Malcolm Niccol, G. M.

The non-recognition of this Grand Lodge by the parent Grand Lodge of England causes them no practical inconvenience. The consequences fall most heavily on the minority, although the New Zealand lodges heartily welcome all visitors. In most portions of the colony official prohibitions by other constitutions are very generally disregarded.

The Board of General Purposes give the following synopsis of the position of the Grand Lodge :

"On the election of the M.W. Grand Master Bro. Malcolm Niccol in 1892 there were 77 lodges under its jurisdiction—since then 9 lodges have joined from other constitutions, and 6 new lodges have been constituted—together 15 making in all 92. As during this period lodges have struck off many non-paying members, there is no great increase in the numerical strength of Grand Lodge, but there is the compensating advantage that the brethren now on the register of Grand Lodge are contributing brethren. Since the Grand Lodge was located in Auckland 679 M. M. Certificates, 255 P. M. Certificates and 83 Patents of Office have been issued from the Grand Secretary's Office, 4,489 letters and returns, etc., received, 2,699 letters written, together with a large number of telegrams received and sent. Copies of Reports of Proceedings have been posted quarterly to all Grand Lodges, as well as to our own lodges and officers, and members of Grand Lodge. The first edition of the Book of Constitutions is quite exhausted, their not being one copy left in the office. The new edition is just to hand and ready for issuing. Our library, consisting at present of the reports of Grand Lodges, is steadily increasing. Contributions of Masonic Works will be very thankfully received."

Since then two other lodges of the Scottish Constitution joined the new Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gillon nominated as Grand Master, Bro. Francis Henry Dillon Bell, and as Bro. Bell has never been the Master of a lodge, he gave a number of precedents for this action, in order to show that it was no new thing and that they were not working without Masonic authority. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

At the Quarterly Communication held at Auckland, July 26, 1894, the following report was adopted :

"Appeals from Lodges of Constitutions which have not Recognized the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.—Several notices of applications received by lodges from lodges not holding under this Grand Lodge, and a direct application having been received on behalf of a widow

whose husband was a member of an E. C. Lodge, the subject was discussed at a meeting at which the M. W. Grand Master was present. The following resolution was moved by the Grand Master: 'That with regard to appeals made by or on behalf of brothers not members of lodges under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, this board will always give due consideration to appeals made by a distressed brother, or the family of a deceased brother, whether presented to it directly, or through a lodge holding under another constitution.' And a further resolution was added to it: 'That, in the opinion of this board, lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of New Zealand should not deal with any such appeal except under recommendation of this board.' It was further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to all lodges of this Grand Lodge, and with it the following, passed at a previous meeting of the board, when considering the same subject: 'That this board is of opinion that lodges and brothers should when possible, assist brothers of other lodges, whose Grand Lodge has not recognized this Grand Lodge, on the broad basis that brotherly love and Masonic benevolence should recognize no bounds save those of prudence.'"

A new lodge was authorized at Mokihinui, on the west coast of the South Islands.

All the relief boards have acted in the most Masonic spirit as to appeals for aid, and the result is that whilst the sum of £339 has been disbursed to members of other Constitutions, the sum of £25 represents all that has been contributed to brethren of their own obedience. £107 went to brethren of the Grand Lodge of England.

Our Proceedings of 1893 and 1894 were received.

Annual Communication, Wellington, April 29, 1895.

F. H. D. Bell, G. M.

Another lodge under the Grand Lodge of England joined the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, making the number of lodges on the roll 102.

On the return of charters the Board reported at follows:

"The Board has much satisfaction in reporting that the M. W. Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Thomson, P. G. M., and V. W. Grand Secretary have met R. W. Bro. Cunningham, District Grnad Master of Canterbury, E. C., and handed over to him the charters of the lodges in the Canterbury District formerly holding of the Grand Lodge of England, which have transferred their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. Bro. Cunningham, on his part, undertook to cancel the said charters, and to hold them until the pleasure of the Grand Lodge of England is known as to their disposal; a request being transmitted that the Grand Lodge of England may be pleased to return the charters, as has been done in similar cases elsewhere, in order that they may be held by the lodges as mementos of their former connection with their mother Grand Lodge. The charters of the lodges in the Wellington District similarly situated will be handed over to R. W. Bro. Arkwright, D. G. M. of Wellington, E. C., at the first convenient opportunity, the lodges having already been removed from the roll of the Grand Lodge of England."

A number of amendments were made to the Constitution.

Application was made for a lodge at Tonga, Friendly Islands, and the Grand Lodge consulted the Grand Lodges of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania on the subject. We are not informed as to the reason why these other Grand Lodges were consulted, probably out of courtesy, but the reply in each case was favorable.

We also quote the following :

"Return of Original Charters.—Actuated by an earnest desire to, if possible, bring about a restoration of complete fraternal amity between the different Constitutions working in this colony, the Board has heartily concurred in the proposal made by the M. W. Grand Master that he should be authorized to remove the last semblance of excuse for grievance on the part of the mother Constitutions against Grand Lodge, by returning the original charters unconditionally. The Board feels that in making this concession in regard to what is considered are its legal and Masonic rights, no loss of dignity is involved, and no danger incurred. Grand Lodge is now sufficiently strong to be under no apprehension of its interests or those of any of its lodges suffering by the return of the charters, even if any attempt should be made to use any of them in an injurious manner. The Board hopes, however, that no such attempt will be made, but that the return of the charters will be accepted by the mother Grand Lodges and their officers in the same spirit as it is made. In each case a request has been preferred that the original charter may, after cancellation, be returned to the lodge as a memento of the source from which it sprung. As several lodges have retained their own charters in preference to leaving them in the custody of Grand Lodge, the Board would earnestly request each such lodge to now return its original charter to the Grand Lodge which issued it, either directly to the representative of such Grand Lodge or through the M. W. the Grand Master." * * *

"Invasion of Sovereign Rights.—The Board has learned with regret that a charter has been granted for the erection of a new lodge in Christchurch under the English Constitution. Grand Lodge owes it to itself and to the Supreme Governing Bodies throughout the world which have recognized its sovereign rights, to protest against any invasion of its territory. A resolution on the subject will be submitted to Grand Lodge, and when passed should be forwarded to all the Grand Jurisdictions which are in fraternal communion with this Grand Lodge." * * *

"Invasion of Sovereign Rights.—Moved by Rt. Wor. Bro. H. J. Williams, on behalf of Mt. Wor. Bro. E. T. Gillon, President of the Board of General Purposes, seconded by Rt. Wor. Bro. George Fowlds—'That, to avoid any future misapprehension, this Grand Lodge asserts its Sovereign Rights as the Supreme Masonic Governing Body in and for the Colony of New Zealand, and protests against any attempt to invade the Territory of New Zealand as being contrary to well-established Masonic law.' This was supported by Mt. Wor. Bro. M. Niccol, and by the Mt. Wor. Grand Master, and was carried unanimously. This resolution was ordered to be forwarded to all the Grand Jurisdictions which are in fraternal communion with this Grand Lodge."

They have the fullest confidence in their courts of law. A striking illustration of this is found in the passage of an amendment to their Masonic Code, which provides that any conviction in the law courts of the colony shall be considered as *prima facie* evidence, and shall remove the necessity for summoning the accused person to appear.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand is now firmly established and the few lodges remaining outside will certainly desire to be in closer touch with the great majority of Masons in the colony.

Lodges, 102; members, about 3,800.

F. H. D. Bell (Wellington), G. M.

Rev. Wm. Ronaldson (Wellington), G. S.

For the opportunity to peruse and review these Proceedings, we are indebted to the kind courtesy of R. W. Bro. L. Secord, the able and efficient Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand near the Grand Lodge of Canada.

NORTH CAROLINA.

109th Communication, Raleigh, January 14 1896.

Francis M. Moye, G. M.

The following extract from the address of the Grand Master gives a clear idea of the state of Masonry in this jurisdiction :

"After careful survey and study of the masonic field, which I have been able to make from extensive correspondence with the lodges, and information received from intelligent masons in different sections of the State, who have had excellent opportunities to judge correctly of the situation, it affords me much pleasure to say that the Order has enjoyed a reasonable degree of prosperity, and made substantial progress the past year.

"Peace and harmony, like faithful sentinels, have stood watch at the door of our lodges, while relations which are of the most cordial and fraternal nature, remain undisturbed with our sister Grand Jurisdictions.

"In a few locatities the work of Masonry has been retarded for the want of a proper knowledge of our beautiful and sublime ceremonies, yet, as a whole, our labors have been rewarded, and we have good cause to feel encouraged.

"Six new lodges have been established, and seven of the old ones, which by a provision of law had forfeited all right to hold meetings or do any masonic work, have had their charters restored and again enlisted under our banner.

"I have felt compelled in my opinion, for the good of Masonry, to discourage the organization of certain new lodges. My strongest efforts have been in the direction of the revival of such of the old lodges as give promise of satisfactory work, believing that from this course, rather than the other, would accrue the best results to the Order.

"I note with pleasure among the reeent accessions to our ranks, a number of young men of intelligence and high character. With open arms we welcome them, and bid them God speed in the grand work upon which they have entered. Wherever this young blood is infused into the body of Masonry, I predict for the lodges an era of increased prosperity and success."

Mr. B. N. Duke offered to repeat his gift of $5000 or $10, 000 to the Oxford Orphan Asylum, on condition that the Masons subscribe a similar sum. Delegates were appointed to canvass the State to endeavor to raise the amount required in order to take advantage of the munificent offer of Mr. Duke. About $2000 was pledged in Grand Lodge.

Lodges, 290; members, 9,576; increase, 20.

Francis M. Moye (Wilson), G. M.

John C. Drewry (Raleigh), G. S.

NORTH DAKOTA.

6th Communication, Fargo, June 18, 1895.

George L. McGregor, G. M.

We quote the following from his address:

"In accordance with the adopted report of the Committee on Jurisprudence at our last annual communication, I peformed, on the 4th day of Oct., 1894, in Tuscan Lodge No. 44, the ceremeny of healing Bro. Joseph H. Pinkerton, an irregular made Mason (having been made under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ontario), and in conformity to the custom adopted by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and I do recommend the said Bro. Joseph H. Pinkerton to the craft as just and upright Mason. * * *

"The condition of the craft throughout this Grand Jurisdiction is good. The growth during the past year, while small, has been taken from among the best specimens of material to be found in the quarries, such as in time will materially help to beautify and adorn our vast fabric. The brethren generally are zealous in the work, and when I consider the times, as they have been, not only throughout the length and breadth of our own, but of foreign lands, I cannot refrain from again congratulating you on your present condition.

"At the time of this writing, I am informed by our Grand Secretary that the returns have been received from all the lodges of this jurisdiction, but one, and our treasury will, therefore, not be largely swelled by virtue of the five dollar penalty resolution passed at our last annual session." * * *

"I believe the time has come when the Grand Lodges should take action in regard to the use of Masonic Ciphers or so called Keys. In many Grand Jurisdictions it is a Masonic offence for a brother to have one, much less using it in the presence of others. I have more than once seen an officer of a lodge, when doing work, take out his key and refer to it. I have known of candidates as soon as they were proficient enough in the lecture to read it, being given one with which to complete the same. In all such cases, I have deemed it a duty to reprimand the brother so doing, and I would recommend that some action be taken, looking to reform, on this subject. I was a Mason ten

years or more before I knew there was such a book, and one of the things that made the greatest impression on my mind was that the work had been passed from mouth to ear and handed down from one generation to another, and carried from Continent to Continent and known in many tongues, and yet still retained that accuracy which enabled a member to prove himself a brother wherever a Masonic Lodge existed."

The card system was adopted for registration purposes.

Grand Representatives are still to be exchanged. A number of those officials recounted their experiences, all indicative of the benefit of the system. The Grand Secretary says that it was a veritable love feast.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews our proceedings of 1894. In his review of Nebraska he says:

"Brother George D. Miklejohn delivered an oration in which he reached back sixty centuries, patted Moses on the head, and related that Jehovah gave his name as 'I am that I am,' soared over the Garden of Eden, lighted in Golgatha, ate grapes with Noah, played on the Grecian harp, sang with Roman children, and hummed a lullaby with a Hindoo mother on the banks of the Ganges. He dove off into space, divided the light from darkness, talked with Joshua, controverted with Hipparchus and Pythagoras, flirted with Diana, and threw a kiss to Isis. Became concerned at the three-forked lightning of Jupiter, fell over the trident of Neptune, kicked the three headed Cerebus of Pluto who went howling into the infernal regions. Had a walking match with Apollo, and sat down to rest and refresh himself on Mount Moriah. In fact he took in all the ancient dignitaries, gods, goddesses, and traveled into the foreign countries in search of Masonic information. Got tangled up with the nocturnal orgies of Serapis, took a descent into Hades, and came back with a moral upon his lips, giving us the assurance that the soul will rest in peace through everlasting eternity.

"The oration was one of great research, and although our comment upon it may be a little too solemn, yet it gives one a vast fund of information."

Lodges, 44; members, 2312; increase, 139.

William H. Best (Fargo), G. M.

Frank J. Thompson (Fargo), G. S.

NOVA SCOTIA

30th Communication, Sydney, Cape Breton, June 12, 1895.

William F. McCoy, G. M.

The brethren marched in procession to St. Andrew's Church, where an eloquent sermon was preached by the Grand Chaplain.

On the work, the Grand Master says:

"On making an official visit to one of the lodges in Yarmouth, and there being considerable discussion among the brethren with respect

to the work in the Third Degree, I visited Boston with a view of seeing how the same work was performed there, and in conjunction with Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Sircom, visited John Adams Lodge, Somerville, Mass., where I met the Junior Grand Warden of Mass., and had the pleasure of seeing the Master of that lodge confer the third degree. The work done is very similar to ours, but done with greater precision and accuracy, and with a great deal more form and courtesy. I was very much pleased to be present and see this degree conferred, and had the honor of being called upon as a Grand Master to address the lodge on that occasion, and my remarks were kindly received by the brethren."

This Grand Lodge has never accepted or acted upon the principle of perpetual jurisdiction over candidates, and as they believe that they have sufficient safeguards against unworthy material, they could not adopt the Mississippi rules.

A Travelling Certificate was adopted, similar to that issued by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

A medal was struck to commemorate the Grand Masonic Charity Fair of 1893. It is to be worn as a jewel.

The report on Correspondence is by Bros. Thomas B. Flint and Rev. Charles E. Willets, D. C. L. In the review of New Zealand we find the following :

" We have abolished the payment of travelling expenses, and yet a very large number of the members of Grand Lodge attended the Annual Communication which we held this year at Sydney, C. B., a distance of 270 miles from Halifax, and numerous representatives from Yarmouth, and other western counties had to travel nearly double that distance—if you desire to have the various lodges well represented change the irksome quarterly meetings into one Grand Annual Communication, and we venture to predict that the result will be satisfactory—if those distantly situated from the place of meeting are unwilling to defray their own expenses as we do here—then let lodges select their representatives to Grand Lodge and pay their expenses ; if this plan is adopted and found not to meet the case, we shall be much mistaken in the zeal and *esprit de corps* of our New Zealand brethren, who, under trying circumstances, have accomplished so much in so short a time."

A son of the Grand Secretary of Nova Scotia is one of the officers of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

Lodges, 64 ; members, 3,267 ; increase, 59.

William F. MacCoy, Q. C. (Halifax), G. M.

William Ross (Halifax), G. S.

OHIO.

86th Communication, Springfield, Oct. 23, 1895.

Carroll F. Clapp, G. M.

They have a most complete and systematic plan of visitation. There are 25 District Lecturers, who visited all the 500 lodges according to the following instructions :

"I am pleased to be privileged to announce to this Grand Body that each and every lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge has been officially visited during the past year, and that a written report of the true condition of each lodge is now on file with the Grand Master.

"The system of lodge visitations, established several years ago, has steadily improved year by year, until it has reached out and accomplished what was expected of it by its most sanguine promoters. This has not been accomplished, however, without an unceasing and determined effort on the part of the District Lecturers as well as the Grand Lodge officers.

"I became convinced early in the year that, to accomplish what was desired and expected, and to make lodge visitations a success, it was absolutely necessary to call the District Lecturers together for consultation and instruction; that a meeting at the close of the year to receive excuses for neglect of duty was not what was wanted. I therefore called a meeting for the first day of March, 1895, at Columbus. Twenty-three of the twenty-five lecturers were present, and, after a thorough discussion of the situation, the following plan of procedure was adopted:

"A blank report should be furnished upon which a minute and complete statement of the condition of the lodges as visited could be made. The report agreed upon contained eighteen questions, to each of which the lecturer was to secure a correct answer, and then the entire report, as completed, was to be read to the lodge on the evening of the visitation, that the lodge might know its true condition, and understand just what the report contained, so that if any errors existed they might be corrected then and there. Upon the day following the visitation, the report was to be mailed to the Grand Master, that he might also know the true condition of the lodge, thus enabling him to correspond with the Master regarding such matters as he found by the report needed attention.

"This plan enables the Grand Master to keep in close touch, not only with the District Lecturers, but also with each lodge; it has proven a success.

"I ordered the actual expenses of the District Lecturers in attendance at the meeting referred to, to be paid from the funds of the Grand Lodge. The total expense amounted to $183.90. I trust that the result shown will justify you in approving of the expenditure.

"The following is the list of questions covered by the report:

"'District Lecturer's Report, District No.....

"'*To the Most Worshipful Grand Master F. & A. M. of Ohio:*

"'I herewith submit the following report of my official visitation to .....Lodge, No...., F. & A. M., located at..... .....County, Ohio.

1. Visitation was made.. ....., 189. , at a.....Communication
2. Number of Masons present at inspection,
3. Present membership of Lodge,
4. Number in arrears for dues (not suspended),
5. Total amount due from said members,
6. Does Lodge own or rent rooms?

7. Condition of building and rooms,
8. Estimated value of Lodge property, Building,$ Furniture, $
   Cash and Securities, $
9. Amount of indebtedness, if any $
10. Is Lodge property kept insured? Amount of Insurance $
11. Charge for degrees, membership, and annual dues, Degrees, $
    Membership, $ Annual Dues, $
12. Receipts and disbursements of Lodge, past Masonic year,
    Receipts, $ Disbursements, $
13. Has Lodge a library containing G. L. Proceedings bound?
14. What Masonic bodies or societies meet in lodge room?
15. Condition of records; are they posted to date?
16. Are candidates examined in Master Mason's Lecture?
17. Number exempt from dues under present By-laws,
18. Amount of District Lecturers expenses, $ paid by Lodge.

REMARKS.....

"'NOTE.—This blank to be filled out and read to the lodge on evening of visitation except what properly comes under the head of 'Remarks' which is intended for use of Grand Master only, and should embrace at least the following information: proficiency in ritual; general condition of lodge: suggestions as to needed improvements, etc. This report to be completed and mailed to the Grand Master on day following visitation to the lodge. The District Lecturer to keep a duplicate, from which to make up his final report for the year, on or before September 1st, which is to be a summary of these reports.'

"By the adoption of this report, all lodges were measured by the same standard, and a uniform system of examination established. The Lecturer thereby submitted a report based upon facts, and not upon what he hoped the lodge might be in the future.

"Upon September 1, 1895, nearly all the lodges having been visited, I asked the Lecturers for an annual or summary report, and forwarded them blanks upon which to make the same. These reports cover the vital points taken from the reports of the individual lodges; they will be published as an appendix to the Grand Lodge Proceedings, unless you othewise direct.

"This thorough, practical examination of all the lodges has unveiled many things which, when corrected, will result in the lodges being greatly strengthened and improved.

"The recapitulation of the annual reports furnishes some valuable statistics which have not heretofore been obtained; the following are shown: (See Recapitulation following District Lecturers' Reports, in Appendix)

"Several Lodges, realizing their unsafe financial condition after their inspection, have greatly reduced the item of unpaid dues so that the finances of the lodges are in a much better condition now than as shown by this report. A number have also repealed their by-law that provided for the exemption of members from the payment of annual dues after a specified number of years.

"The blanks used the past year can be improved upon, and better results can be obtained and shown another year.

"I believe that every Mason in Ohio, and especially this Grand Lodge, should feel under obligations to the District Lecturers for their untiring, thorough, and earnest work. They have patiently labored without compensation, and with but one object in view; to better the condition of the lodges in their respective districts.

"Some legislation will be asked for at this session of the Grand Lodge, intended to still further improve the system of lodge visitation. I trust that you will all feel like encouraging every laudable effect in this direction."

The detailed reports are published in the Proceedings, and contain much valuable information. The average attendance at lodge visitations was 33. The total expense was $1323.28, and the average cost per lodge was $2.65. 108 lodges have annual dues of less than $2. The average annual dues are only $2.20.

Their new Masonic Home at Springfield, costing over $100,000, was dedicated with imposing ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge donated to the Home the sum of $10,000 and Cincinnati Lodge, No. 133, generously gave $1000.

The following resolutions were passed:

"*Resolved*, That the W. Master of each and every Lodge shall require every newly obligated Master Mason to acquire the Examination Lecture of the Master's Degree, and that the W. Master certify that this has been done on the annual returns of his Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary cause to be printed a blank certificate to that effect on the blanks sent out for the annual returns. * * *

"*Resolved*, That so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to the Order of the Eastern Star be approved, and that Rule 79 of the Code be amended by striking out from the last paragraph of said Rule in line five the word 'unanimous,' and in line 6 the word 'all.' The paragraph will then read as follows:

"*Provided*, however, That any organization known and designated as a Chapter of the Eastern Star, when composed entirely of Masons under obedience to this Grand Lodge, and of the wives, daughters and families of such Masons, may, with the consent of the Grand Master and the consent of the Masonic Bodies jointly occupying such Masonic Halls, be permitted to use such Masonic Halls for festival and ceremonial purposes." * * *

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master be, and he is hereby instructed to purchase a Past Grand Master's jewel for each of the Past Grand Masters who have not received the the same, of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, at a cost of not to exceed $100 each."

A revised code of laws was adopted.

The expenses of the District Lecturers are paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge

A proposed amendment lies over to next year, to make the minimum annual lodge dues $2 00.

The report on Correspondence by Bro. W. M. Cunningham

covers over 300 pages, and it is so extensive and exhaustive that we are driven to despair in trying to decide what to extract from its many good features. Five pages are taken up with a review of our Proceedings for 1895. The following is from his notice of the Grand Lodge of Scotland :

"Charters were granted for the establishment of three new Lodges in Queensland.

"From the reports of the Provincial Grand Masters, it is evident that prosperity and harmony prevail in the subordinate lodges of that Grand Jurisdiction.

"The Grand Secretary reported that many remonstrances had been received by him against conferring the three degrees in one night; and in a communication from Lodge St. Andrew, No. 701, of Natal, it is stated that the attention of the Grand Lodge is called.

"'To the fact of the number of young Masons who come out to the colonies with little or no knowledge of Masonry, and more than one brother has utterly failed to pass a simple examination, even though holding a diploma from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The fault seems to rest with a great number of the lodges in Scotland allowing candidates to take the three degrees in one evening. This is a great injustice to Masonry, and it is felt nowhere so much as in the colonies. We trust the Grand Lodge will see its way to inquire into the matter; for if the present state of affairs is allowed to continue, the honor and credit of Masonry will be greatly imperiled.'

"In relation to the foregoing,

"'It was resolved to refer the letter from Natal to the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution, with the recommendation to consider the propriety of having an alteration made on the rule giving permission to confer more than one degree in one night.'

"Duties corresponding to those of the 'Board of General Purposes' of the Grand Lodge of England are discharged by what is termed the 'Grand Committee,' of which the Grand Master acts as Chairman when present.

"The Committee on Finance reported the

"'Income for the two months ending 20th instant, £565 3s. 1d.; expenditure, £347 7s. 5d.; excess of income over expenditure, £217 15s. 8d.'

"'Income for the first eight months of the year, £3,719 8. 8d.; and for the corresponding period of last year, £3,693 19s. 2d.; excess of income this year, £25 9s. 6d.'

"In the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland an obligation is necessary upon affiliation."

On the Antiquity and Symbology of Masonry, Bro. Cunningham says :

"In relation to the Antiquity of Freemasonry, it is now conceded, by all Masonic writers of note, that its principles and teachings antedate either the Temple of Solomon or its Tyrian disseminators, whilst the researches and discoveries of Masonic students are from time to time bringing to light corroborative evidence of the existence of lodges of Free Masons, in which more than one degree was conferred, long before 1717.

"In this connection the researches of Bro. Edward Conder, Jr., as noted in his History of the Guild of the 'Masons Company of Lon-

don,' and his discovery of the existence, so long denied, within that body of a regular lodge of Free Masons before 1631, mentioned herein under the head of Colorado, is to the Masonic student one of the most important discoveries made in Masonic research, and, if the limit of this report permitted, copious quotations from the history of Bro. Conder would be of much interest, and show to the Masonic reader the zealous labors of that eminent Brother.

"In the opinion of the writer, many of the vexed questions relating to Masonic history may be fully determined in considering its Symbolism.

"That the Symbology of Freemasonry proves its necessary duality, and the existence of more than one degree would seem evident. Its foundation being the operative, and its superstructure the speculative or spiritual, its degrees must therefore be illustrative of End, Cause and Effect—discreet degrees, three in number, and absolutely essential to existence. And in their explanation, as such, in connection with Freemasonry, it is only necessary to recur to the building of the Temple of King Solomon, upon every particular of which our Ritualism and ceremonials, considered in both its operative and speculative character, is founded. Whilst it is, doubtless, only necessary to mention its connection with the natural application of the practical lessons of the Operative taught in its construction, how apt and how pertinent are the speculative, or spiritual, lessons of its Symbology in relation to humanity! Whereby we are taught that the End of Freemasonry is to build up within ourselves a Temple 'not made with hands,' but a Temple in which the Lord Himself can dwell, and for whose 'dwelling-place' it is upon our part to be built.

"The Cause is that constant effort with which we endeavor, day by day, with Divine assistance, to put away the evils and vices incident to the depravity of human nature, and be thereby brought from the darkness of ignorance, symbolized by the profane, until the Initiate has, in his search after Truth, been brought into the light of the perfect day; and in the attainment of the Master's part, has symbolically laid up, stone by stone, the foundation and superstructure of that spiritual building representing the 'humble and contrite heart' in which the Lord is pleased to dwell, and which in its occupancy by Him is the Effect."

Lodges, 500; members, 39,906; increase, 1,055.

William B. Melish (Cincinnati), G. M.

J. H. Bromwell (Cincinnati), G. S.

OKLAHOMA.

3rd Communication, Kingfisher, February 12th, 1895.

Selwyn Douglas, G. M.

Three new lodges were formed.

The Grand Secretary is in error in placing Canada in the list of Grand Lodges which have not recognized Oklahoma, as that recognition was cordially granted by our Grand Lodge in 1893.

All Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge are members of the Committee on Law and Usage.

A proposed amendment lies over till next year, to make all non-affiliated Masons in the jurisdiction members of the lodges where they live, and failure to deposit their dimits shall be a Masonic offence. There have been numerous absurd methods proposed dealing with non-affiliates, but this is the most astonishing of all. We are almost led to the conclusion that its author did not join the Fraternity "of his own free will and accord."

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master elect appoint two members, who, with the Grand Master, shall form a committee who shall call before them, at the earliest practicable day, the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge and examine him as to his ability to teach the work and lectures as adopted by this Grand Lodge, and to correct the work and lectures, should any such correction be deemed necessary by them."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence, but did not receive our Proceedings.

Lodges, 23; members, 923; increase, 198.

Charles A. Newman (El Reno), G. M.

James S. Hunt (Stillwater), G. S.

OREGON.

45th Communication, Portland, June 12, 1895.

Philip S. Malcolm, G. M.

We extend our sympathy on account of the death of their Grand Secretary, Bro. Stephen F. Chadwick, P. G. M. He was Chairman of Correspondence since 1867 and Grand Secretary since 1889. He was widely known and esteemed as an earnest, able and devoted Mason.

The Grand Master visited the furthest parts of the State. The financial distress is passing away, and Oregon will be one of the first to benefit by the welcome change.

A revised Constitution was adopted.

The following resolutions were passed:

"*Resolved*, That whenever a lodge shall, by reason of the inability of the brethren to pay them, remit the dues of a member, such lodge must not pay Grand Lodge dues upon such member. * * *

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon cause to be published a certificate which shall be issued to all actual Past Masters of this jurisdiction. This certificate to be used when deemed necessary to support the otherwise unauthorized assertion of such actual Past Master as to his right to such title and its attendant privileges. * * *

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be now appointed to take into consideration the subject of Masonic Relief, and to formulate a suitable plan therefor, and to report the same to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lecturer be paid a salary of one hundred dollars per month for services as such Grand Lecturer while engaged as such lecturer."

Bro. Robert Clow takes the place of the lamented Chadwick in the Correspondence department. He presents a very good report, reviewing, among the rest, Canada for 1894. In his notice of New Hampshire we find the following:

"This is in striking contrast with the action of some other Grand Lodges we have noticed. We are not a member of the Order of Eastern Star, and have only a superficial knowledge of its aims and objects, but venture the assertion that the membership, composed as it is of Master Masons, their wives, daughters and sisters, are engaged in laudable undertakings, and that their meetings in lodge rooms would have a much greater influence for good upon the morals of the Craft, and no more tendency to desecrate lodge rooms or make them "common or unclean" than public installations.

"We would advise that committee to come to Oregon, and by feasting for a time on our clams and oysters, get their conceptions of the relations which exist between a Mason, his wife and daughter liberalized."

Also the following from the notice of South Dakota:

"In Oregon a brother is not entitled to a dimit *ipso facto* upon a showing that he is clear of the books and no charges pending against him. But he must show to the satisfaction of the lodge that he makes the application for the purpose of joining another lodge or that he is about to change his residence to the jurisdiction of another lodge, and we think this rule is the better one, as it tends to prevent capricious applications for dimits, and measurably interposes a barrier to non-affiliation."

Lodges, 100; members, 4,803; increase, 108.

Morton D. Clifford (Prairie City), G. M.

James F. Robinson (Eugene), G. S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the Quarterly Communicatian held on June 5, 1896, the record is made of the death of Bro. Richard Vaux, P.G.M., who was a member of the Grand Lodge for about fifty years and Chairman of Correspondence for about 25 years. His fame as a Masonic writer and jurist was not bounded by the shores of this continent, and his many good qualities of heart and mind endeared him to all who had the privilege of his acquaintance.

The following is the report of the committee on Library:

"On behalf of Brother Wyckoff, Chairman of the Committee on

Library, who is absent from the city, I desire to state that the Committee are at work on the publishing of the reprint of the Minutes and Proceedings of the Grand Lodge. They have commenced with the earliest minute-book in the possession of the Grand Lodge, and the work will be published in volumes of five hundred pages each, and when completed every member can have as full a record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge as can be found in the office of the Grand Secretary. They will be sold at a price that will just pay the cost of issuing them. The first volume will be issued before the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, and in the mean time the Committee on Library will issue a circular to the members soliciting their subscriptions."

A new edition of the Ahiman Rezon has been prepared and revised, principally by Bro. James M. Lamberton, and 2000 copies were ordered to be printed. This work contains the ancient charges, ceremonies, and forms in use, digest of decisions, historical notes, charity funds, and descriptions of all the jewels and aprons.

Annual Communication, Philadelphia, Dec. 27, 1895.

Matthias H. Henderson, G. M.

The Grand Master decided that a man who cannot write cannot be made a Mason. He is quite correct in saying that :

"A man who in this age of free schools has arrived at years of maturity without one of the rudiments of the most ordinary education does not manifest intelligence and ambition enough to be a useful member of our fraternity. We cannot condone or tolerate that degree of ignorance.

On the subject of side degrees, Bro. Henderson says :

"During the year my permission was asked to organize a side degree or society to be called 'The Masonic Sons and Daughters of the Revolution,' the membership to be composed of Masons and their families whose ancestors had fought in the Revolutionary War. It is needless to say that permission was refused. I had supposed that the attitude of this Grand Lodge in regard to such matters was so well understood that it did not need reassertion, but it seems otherwise. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania recognizes nothing but ancient Freemasonry. It does not countenance side degrees, nor will it permit organizations not Masonic to use titles having a Masonic reference. Ancient Craft Masonry is our property, and we cannot allow attachments to be made to it which destroy its symmetry and pervert it from its original purpose."

Seven new lodges were formed. One called University Lodge, in compliment to the University of Pennsylvania, started with 68 members.

Their debt has been reduced to $500,000, over $322,000 having been paid off during the year.

The Grand Master exercised his prerogative of making a Mason at sight. He says that they do it for the purpose of keeping the custom green in the minds of the brethren, and lest it become forgotten and fall into decay by reason of disuse

which we think is a very poor reason, but a poor excuse is better than none.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. Michael Arnold, and contains a good notice of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Canada for 1895, in which the following paragraph appears :

"A movement is being made to restrict or regulate the practice of permitting other than the recognized work of this Grand Lodge in private lodges. If we may be permitted to advise, we would suggest the prohibition of all work except the recognized work."

In the review of Colorado, we find some excellent remarks on the "escorting" business. After mentioning the fact that the Grand Lodge of Colorado extended thanks to a Commandery for escort duty, the report proceeds :

"This we would criticise. We do not think a Grand Lodge can with propriety recognize a Commandery as a Masonic body. Nor do we think a Grand Lodge should be in need of an escort. We presume its duty was that of escorts in general, to act as a guard to conduct the Grand Lodge from its place of meeting to the scene of its labors and back again; and to see that they were not assaulted on the way by highwaymen or other miscreants. A Grand Lodge should be on all occasions omnipotent and all powerful, able to discharge any duty required of it without assistance, and to protect itself against all comers. If some brother in Colorado says that the Commandery did not go as a protector, but to show their respect to the Grand Lodge, we will reply that if their desire to show respect to the Grand Lodge was greater than their desire to show their waving plumes, glittering swords, and clanking chains to an admiring populace, they could have done it by going inthe ranks of their lodges, clothed with a lambskin, the emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. It is not the Commandery we are finding fault with, however. When the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania accepts of an escort please remind us of it."

Lodges, 425 ; members, 48,472 ; increase, 1,076.
Matthias H. Henderson (Philadelphia), G. M.
Michael Nisbet (Philadelphia), G. S.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

20th Communication, Summerside, June 24, 1895.
Thomas A. McLean, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master is a business document, yet is pervaded by the true Masonic spirit. He recounts the particulars of his official visits and then says :

"This concludes the visitation of every lodge in the jurisdiction. I can truly say that Masonry throughout the Island has taken an additional step in the march of progress, and that the official and fraternal visitation of the officers tends to awaken an additional interest in the order; and I feel that my time in travelling from one

end of the jurisdiction to the other has been well spent if, by so doing, light has been given to any of the brethren. I must here remark that some of the lodge members in our jurisdiction require more constitutional light in *re* lodge funds. They hold the opinion that these funds are theirs to do with them what they will. This is erroneous! A lodge fund is held sacred, except for legitimate expenses."

The Grand Lecturer also visited all the lodges. The work shows an improvement of that of a few years ago, and the officers generally are anxious that the degrees should be given in an intelligent manner.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

The third degree was exemplified by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants. A motion was then made that the work as rendered should be adopted as the ritual of the Grand Lodge. An amendment was moved to postpone the motion until the next annual Communication, and on being put to vote, both the amendment and the original motion were defeated.

There is no report on Correspondence.

Lodges, 12 ; members, 509 ; increase, 12.

Roderick McNeill (Stanley Bridge), G. M.

Neil McKelvie (Summerside), G. S.

QUEBEC.

26th Communication, Montreal, January 29, 1896.

Frederick Massey, G. M.

At no time in their history have they been so progressive. The Craft has been making great advances in the Province of Quebec. On the English lodges in Montreal, Bro. Massey says :

"As far as our foreign relations are concerned they remain very much as heretofore, the lodges having jurisdiction under the Grand Lodge of England, being still in existence in this City of Montreal. There are not wanting, in my opinion, signs that these lodges will possibly in the near future consider seriously benefits which would accrue to them from being in much closer contact to their Grand Body than they are at present.

"Without going closely into this question, which has been so fully discussed heretofore, I dismiss the subject with the remark that it is to be hoped that ere long lodges referred to will recognize it as their duty to relieve the Grand Lodge of England from the somewhat, no doubt to them, embarrassing position of still allowing lodges to work under English charters in this Province of Quebec ; a position which, undoubtedly, no Grand Lodge cares to maintain, and one which has now become so solitary as to be marked among the Grand Lodges of the Masonic world."

Four lodges in Montreal have been amalgamated into two.

A revised Constitution was adopted.

The following extracts are from the able report of the Committee on the State of Masonry :

" We congratulate Grand Lodge on the satisfactory condition of its affairs generally, the solid progress made numerically and financially, and on the harmony that exists throughout its borders. We have had during the year a large augmentation of new material added to our ranks, which has been offset to an unusual extent by withdrawals and suspensions; the latter, no doubt, may be accounted for by the stringency of the times, and we have no doubt that with the dawn of an era of prosperity many of the wanderers of both classes will return to the fold. Under these circumstances it is still more pleasing to note that a fair increase in membership is recorded. * * *

" The committee have been, in common with the G. M., impressed with the unexpected progress of Freemasonry in this Province, and agree with him in thinking that this is entirely due to the progress of education, and the more enlightened our population becomes just so much must antagonism to Freemasonry diminish ; it is only the bigoted, narrow-minded and ignorant who can rail against the God-given teachings of Freemasonry.

" We cannot help noting the kindly manner in which our Grand Master refers to our foreign relations that are not disturbed either at home or abroad. True, three lodges are said to exist in our jurisdiction, supported by a foreign Grand Lodge, in violation of our ideas of the constitution of Masonry.

" In this regard we note with a degree of satisfaction, for the effect it may have upon others outside our Grand Body, the important event in the history of Masonry in this Province, alluded to in our G. M's. address, that at the last session of the Dominion Parliament a bill was passed removing the alleged disabilities under which Freemasonry in this Province was supposed to suffer, in the imagination of some people, and now that the last objection has been removed, we trust the hopes which animated the breasts of many of our members when inaugurating the conciliatory action of this Grand Lodge, may show some signs of being fulfilled. It must be obvious, however, to any thinking man, that this kindness on our part should not be unnecessarily tried.

" We are pleased to notice the attention drawn by the G. M. to the essential services rendered the Craft in this jurisdiction by Bro. R. S. White, M. W. Bro. Walkem and R. W. Bro. Gibson, and also the kindness displayed by M. W. Bro. R. W. White, G. M. of Canada, in being present at the dedication of the new Masonic Halls, and we must certainly give him credit for enhancing to a very large extent the pleasure enjoyed by the brethren of this jurisdiction on that occasion."

Bro. E. T. D. Chambers presented his tenth annual report on Correspondence, and it is as excellent as usual. We take the following from his introduction :

" There has recently been brought to our notice a circular letter addressed to the various Masonic governing bodies of the world by the Grand Master of Italian Masonry, inviting them to send representatives or assurances of fraternal adhesion to the celebration in September last, at Rome, of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the termination of the temporal power of the Papacy.

" We have not learned what responses were received by the Italian Freemasons to this appeal, but we should not like English-speaking Freemasonry to be held responsible for any sympathy extended to the authors of the circular by the so called Masonry of the Latin countries of Europe and South America. Of much that passes for Masonry under the government of the Grand Orients, we are, not unreasonably, very suspicious. Only a year ago, for invasion of our territory and for ignoring our protests thereanent, the Grand Lodge of Quebec withdrew its recognition from the so-called Grand Symbolic Lodge of Spain and severed all fraternal intercourse therewith. The alleged Masonry of the Grand Orient of France has been repudiated by legitimate Freemasons everywhere, because of its wicked and un-Masonic ignoring of the God of Masonry,—the Great Architect of the Universe. The so-called Freemasons of some other Latin lands are deservedly repudiated by legitimate Craftsmen for their prostitution of their lodges to religious and political plots. Whatever part they have taken in the celebration of the anniversary of the loss of the temporal power of the Papacy, legitimate Masonry is not responsible therefor. English-speaking Freemasonry, at all events, could have no part in such celebration. It has nothing whatever to do with the plots, the politics or the revolutions of other lands. Such things dare not so much as be mentioned within its lodges. It has no quarrel with the Pope of Rome, and the question of either his spiritual or temporal power is none of its concern. Successive Popes have banned Freemasonry, attempting to punish the Masonry of Britain and America that they know nothing of, and that never did them or thought of doing them any harm, for the misguided actions of Grand Orients and Symbolic Grand Lodges that it repudiates, which having departed from the spirit and teachings of Freemasonry have embroiled themselves in political and religious feuds, diametrically opposed to the teachings of the Order. Yet Masonry goes on the even tenor of its way, strong in the confidence that there is a good time coming, in which the eyes of the blind will be opened, and those who now sit in the shadow of darkness and prejudice will recognize the fact that in teaching the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, with all the morality and obedience and love that such relations imply, neither Pope nor Cardinal, Bishop nor Priest, Evangelist nor Presbyter has any more faithful ally than genuine Freemasonry.

" The English translation of the Italian circular herein referred to, which strangely enough is dated from the Borghese Palace in Rome, is as follows :

" ' Honored and Dear Brethren,

" ' On the 20th of September, this year, Italy, united in nation, will ' solemnly celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the deliverance of ' her Capital.

" ' With the restitution of Rome to the Fatherland, the temporal ' power of the Popes came to an end ; therefore the feast of the 20th ' of September does not concern our nation only, but all civilized ' nations.

" ' Italian Masonry which had such a share in the work for the ' unification of Italy and the destruction of the temporal power of the ' Papacy, has resolved to take a public part in the festivity.

" ' Will not the Masonic families of other lands likewise attend the

'commemoration of the greatest event of our century? We feel sure 'they will. Therefore we hereby invite your Supreme Masonic 'Power to send its delegates to the feasts of September next, or, shall 'this be absolutely impossible, to forward us, at least, officially, its 'fraternal adhesion.

" 'May it be said that in that most prosperous day, the thought 'and love of the Masons of the world do palpitate in Rome redeemed 'to freedom?

" 'Waiting for your prompt response, we beg you, Ill. Brethren, to accept our threefold fraternal salute.

ADRIANO LEMMI, 33,
The Grand Master.

ETTORE FERRARI, 33,
The Grand Secretary.

ULISSE BACCI, 33,
The Head of the Grand Secretariate.' "

Canada for 1895 has a good notice.
Lodges, 56; members, 3,530; increase, 98
Frederick Massey (Montreal), G. M.
John H. Isaacson (Montreal), G. S.

RHODE ISLAND.

105th Communicatian, Providence, May 20, 1895.
Elisha H. Rhodes, G. M.

The Grand Master made a number of visits and reports good, honest and faithful work on the part of all, and an excellent condition of affairs in nearly all of the lodges. He opened one new lodge. He laid the corner-stone of a church, and says:

"I accepted this invitation on behalf of Grand Lodge with great pleasure, because it was the only formal request received from a Christian church in several years, and it seemed to me to be a recognition of the fact that the tie between religion and Masonry is still strong and unbroken."

The Mississippi jurisdiction proposal was not concurred in.

The Centennial Memorial Volume has been published. It is a book of 900 pages and they believe it to be the most complete work of its kind ever produced.

The following was passed at the semi-annual meeting;

"*Resolved*, That no business except the conferring the degrees, or the trial of Masons who have not attained the Master's degree, shall be transacted in this jurisdiction in any other than a Master Mason's Lodge."

Lodges, 37; members, 4,661; increase, 104.
Edward P. Lowden (Pawtucket), G. M.
Edwin Baker (Providence), G. S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

119th Communication, Charleston, December 10, 1895.
Claude E. Sawyer, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master is a very able document, full of the true spirit of Masonry, except where he advocates the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates. He visited a number of lodges and held five county meetings, which were well attended He issued dispensations for two new lodges. Their debt is rapidly growing smaller, being now about $8,000. He differs very decidedly from his predecessor on the physical perfection doctrine, but nevertheless, he was compelled to decide according to previous Grand Lodge precedents, that the loss of a toe, an eye, or the first joint of the little finger was a bar to any progress in Masonry. On the condition of the Craft in the State, he says:

"Masonry is improving in South Carolina. It is not growing very rapidly in numbers, but taken as a whole the character and tone is tending upward and I am sure this much will gratify you.

"I am unable to give you that detailed account that I had hoped, because a majority of my District Deputies have made no report to me as required, but brethren, they like the rest of us, have their business engagements, and it is impossible to have thorough work done under the system. It has proven itself to be an utter failure in this State.

"The system was discussed for forty years before it was adopted, and very soon after its adoption Masonry began to decline in tone, in the quality of work and members. Masonry may be said to have reached the high water mark in 1875, when there were 7,435 affiliated Masons in the State.

"That was the period when the system of District Deputies was adopted and Masonry began to decline, not only in numbers but in condition, till in 1891 it reached low water mark and numbered 4,944. It then fluctuated to 6,099, and again declined to 5,797, as shown by the report for 1894.

"Brethren I ask you to examine the reports during all these years and you will find that we were busy all that time manufacturing Masons. Where are they? I believe the number unaffiliated in South Carolina is as great as the affiliates. There must be some reason for this, and I believe I can point out to you some of the many reasons."

One of his reasons is that too little attention is in general paid to the qualifications of Masters of lodges, another is neglect to properly scrutinize the moral qualities of candidates, and a third that the dues are often too small to leave anything for charity after the lodge expenses are paid.

The physical perfectionists were strong enough to prevent their strict rule from being relaxed, and the perpetual jurisdiction doctrine was also upheld.

A motion to abolish the District Deputies was lost.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and notices our Proceedings of 1894. In his review of Maine, we find the following :

" Until the year 1817 there were two rival Grand Lodges in South Carolina, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons and the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. There was an attempted union in 1808, which in the language of Brother Drummond, 'did not unite;' the final and lasting union occured in 1817, when the name adopted (the name itself being a compromise) was 'The Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina.' Before the union, and in the year 1807, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, feeling the necessity of a Book of Constitutions which should prescribe a uniformity in the services and ceremonies of the Craft under its jurisdiction, requested Bro. Frederick Dalcho, M. D., to prepare such a work. In accordance with this request Bro. Dalcho prepared the work, and it was published in 1807, under the title of 'An Ahiman Rezon for the use of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, Ancient York Masons and the lodges under the Register and Masonic jurisdiction thereof.'

" In 1817, when the two Grand Lodges united, Dr. Dalcho's Ahiman Rezon lost its authoritative character, the York Grand Lodge for which it had been compiled, being then dissolved. The new Grand Lodge (being the present Grand Lodge), was, however, as sensible as its predecessors had been of the great importance of such a work, and in 1822 ordered a republication of it, which was done in the course of that year by Dr. Dalcho, who, it will be remembered, was a York Rite Mason, and the usages and customs, rights and ceremonies taught in this Ahiman Rezon were in accordance with Ancient York Masonry. From that time up to the year 1850, Dalcho's Ahiman was used as the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of A. F. M. of So. Ca. It had then, as it is called, gotten out of print, new lodges being unable to supply themselves with copies of it. In 1551 the Grand Lodge appointed a Committee to revise and republish the Ahiman Rezon. This committee appointed the Grand Secretary, Dr. Albert G. Mackey, to superintend the compilation and preparation for the press, and the work having been completed was approved and accepted by Grand Lodge December 2, 1851. Dr. Dalcho's work was enlarged and re-arranged, but it was claimed that not the slightest innovation was made in the essential portions. 'The usages and customs, the rights and ceremonies of the Order, as practiced heretofore in South Carolina, have been preserved with the most scrupulous veneration for their antiquity.' The work in South Carolina is therefore the Ancient *York* work, and not the '*Ancient*.' We do not know what particular Pennsylvania work Bro. Drummond is alluding to as an '*innovation*.' We only mean to say that the usages and customs, forms and ceremonies in use in South Carolina are, and, since the union in 1817, have been those used and practiced by the 'Yorks' and not by the 'Ancients.' When the union took place it adopted the York Rite. * * *

" Without comment we quote from our Proceedings what was said by us with reference to a Lodge of Sorrow, held February 28, 1866, by Orange Lodge, No. 14. He notes as peculiar, that the Grand Lodge was closed on the Third Degree and opened on the First for the installation of officers, which being completed, it opened again on the Third Degree. Says he : 'We presume there was a reason for

this, but do not know what it is, and we know that the brethren would be glad to have Bro. Inglesby tell us.'

"The reason is, first, that our Ahiman Rezon so requires. The Ahiman, which, as we have above explained, was written by Bro. Dalcho in 1807, and which we believe correctly preserves the customs, usages, forms and ceremonies as handed down in the York Rite. *Ita lex scripta est* is the best answer we can give. We presume that the reason of the law is that we are taught that Grand Masters existed long before Grand Lodges were ever heard of, and when the Craft mainly consisted of Entered Apprentice Masons. The first Grand Lodge was the Grand Lodge of England, organized in 1717, and up to that time lodges did all their work and transacted all their business in the E. A. Degree. Our Ahiman preserves this ancient tradition. Practically, it permits every Brother Mason to be present at and participate in the installation of his Grand Master. Of course the E. A. and F. C.'s are brother Masons."

Lodges, 181; members, 5,902; increase, 105.

Claude E. Sawyer (Aiken), G. M.

Charles Inglesby (Charleston), G. S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

21st Communication, Pierre, June 11, 1895.

William C. Allen, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"With few exceptions, the particular lodges are in a prosperous condition. Although our grand State has suffered severe reverses during the year, from an almost total failure of crops which caused very general business depressions, our lodges, by reason of the wise course of economy always followed, have not been materially injured thereby, and I am pleased to be able to report what is under such circumstances, a flattering increase in membership."

Five new lodges were formed. The Grand Lecturer, by reason of want of funds, could not visit more than seven lodges.

One of the most interesting features of the session was the reception of the Grand Representatives, with the accompanying speeches.

The affiliation fee was abolished.

An appropriation was made to enable the Grand Lecturer to hold at least 25 Schools of Instruction during the coming year.

Five per cent. of the gross receipts go to the charity fund.

In his review of Canada for 1894, Bro. William Blatt has the following remarks:

"It is not necessary for the Grand Master of this Jurisdiction to write much of an address. The District Deputy Grand Masters, and there are eighteen of them, furnish reports which are comprehensive in every detail relative to the conditions of each lodge in all matters bearing upon the moral, social, financial and working condition of the same. These reports, of uniform marked ability, are submitted

some time prior to the annual Communication to the Board of General Purposes, and this Board renders a full report, reviewing the work and condition of the Fraternity, pointing out errors, suggesting reforms, and recommending legislation to carry the same into effect when deemed necessary. Under such a perfect system of government it is no wonder that the craft in the jurisdiction is in a most prosperous condition. While we do not know how this excellent system might work in the United States, we cannot withhold our admiration of it, justified by the results attained in the jurisdiction under review."

Lodges, 90; members, 4,254; increase, 180.
Frederic H. Files (Sioux Falls), G. M.
George A. Pettigrew (Flandreau), G. S.

TENNESSEE.

82nd Communication, Nashville, January 29th, 1896.
George H. Morgan, G. M.

One new lodge was formed. We quote two of the Grand Master's decisions:

"It is not improper for a Masonic lodge to participate in the funeral procession of a brother entitled to Masonic burial, with Knights of Pythias or other civic societies or military body to which he may have belonged, the Masonic ceremonies to be separate from that of other bodies, and such as prescribed in the Text Book.

* * * "The rejection of a candidate for Masonry does not give the lodge rejecting him perpetual jurisdiction over such candidate."

We also extract the following, embodying, as it does, the noblest sentiments which should actuate every true Mason:

"PEACE!

"How sacred the word! Whether considered in relation to fraternities like ours, to individuals, to states or to nations, it presents to humanity the same sweet benison. It carries with it the idea of happiness, contentment, joy, brotherly love, and human elevation.

"War! its opposite, is the harbinger of woe, want, sorrow, the shedding of fraternal blood, and human degradation.

"I would not invade the political domain nor assume the role of statesman. I would not call in question the wisdom and patriotism of those who have the management of the affairs of civil government in their hands, but I do not deem it improper to say that the great Masonic Fraternity is a Brotherhood of Peace, and in these times of turmoil and trouble, when the thoughtless, the hot-headed, the giddy and the ambitious talk flippantly of war, Masons should not hesitate to speak out for peace and 'the things that make for peace.'

"If the two great English-speaking nations of the world, and the other powers between whom war is now threatened, should engage in deadly combat, after the thousands upon thousands have been slain, millions of treasure spent, cities sacked and destroyed, land and oceans drenched in blood, and widows and orphans made by hundreds—yea, by thousands, diplomacy will still have to step in and make treaties and settle the disputes. Let us have the diplomacy first, and let all honorable means be used to avert the dire calamity

of war, with all of its untold horrors. Believing that the great Masonic heart of Tennessee beats in unison upon this subject and responds to the voice of God in the sentiment, 'on earth peace and good will to men,' I give utterance to these thoughts here, trusting that they may touch a responsive chord in the hearts of our brethren everywhere in this country and beyond the seas, and aid in bringing about a peaceful settlement of the present differences, in a manner alike honorable to all. If these views meet your approbation, I suggest that the committee on Jurisprudence prepare and report a dispatch embodying the same, to be transmitted by wire throughout the world, that our fraternal brotherhood everywhere may know where the Masons of Tennessee stand upon this momentous question."

On the same subject the following report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence was adopted :

"The Grand Lodge of Tennessee, now sitting in Annual Comunication in the city of Nashville, do send this, their fraternal greeting, to the brethren of the Mystic Tie wheresoever dispersed, and sincerely hope and pray that the war clouds, which now seem hovering over the nations of the earth, will soon be dispersed, and the white wings of peace will again cast their lengthening shadows over the world.

"To this end we urge upon every Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, meeting during the year 1896, to issue some fraternal sentiment favoring a peaceful termination of all international strife. Also that they use their great influence with the war-making and peace-keeping powers of the two worlds to exhaust all honorable and peaceful means to settle all contention before resort to arms.

"War between nations means death and destruction and untold agonies, and we who believe in the 'fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man' cannot refrain from raising our voice in condemnation of the needless shedding of human blood.

"Brethren, we greet you, and strike hands with you in bringing about a peaceful solution of impending dangers of war.

"We ask that the Associated Press send this paper over their wires to all parts of the habitable globe where the touch of electricity is felt."

Their new Code of Masonic Law was formally adopted.

Secretaries of lodges are hereafter to report the total number of non-affiliated Masons in the juridisction of their lodges. The following report was unanimously adopted :

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, having seen in the morning newspapers informal announcements of candidacy for office in this Masonic Grand Body, feel constrained in the interest of Freemasonry and for the peace, harmony and good name of our Grand Lodge, to make immediate and special report upon that part of the address touching upon office seeking.

"Regarding with manifest regret and apprehension the introduction of the methods of political conventions into this sacred repository of Freemasonry, our Grand Master, under the solemn sanction of his official oath, has found it necessary to pronounce this sentence :

"'*A brother who so far forgets himself as to declare his candidacy, and electioneer for office in the Grand Lodge, is unworthy of your confidence and support.*'

"To the practical politician this sentence would doubtless seem severe. But remembering that in the domain of morals and of Freemasonry it is an accepted maxim that 'the office should seek the man and not the man the office,' considering how inevitable is the tendency of rival candidacy to produce dissension and discord among brethren and to degenerate into a selfish squabble for a high Masonic trust, your committee is assured that those who practice the precepts of this ancient and honorable institution, those who would cultivate the Masonic virtues of friendship and brotherly love, those who would promote the peace and harmony of this Grand Lodge, those who stand fast in the faith once delivered and continually inculcated that among us should exist no other contention than that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree, will commend this official utterance of our Grand Master as a faithful expression of a fundamental truth of Freemasonry.

"Recalling the admonition of our venerable father, Wilkins Tannehill, who was seven times honored by this Grand Lodge as Grand Master, 'to drive from the threshold every evil passion, every impure desire, that all things may give place to peace and good fellowship,' and confident that the practice of office seeking contributes more than all other causes combined to generate animosity and discord in the Grand Bodies of Tennessee, your committee approve the utterance of the Grand Master, and recommend it to the careful consideration and cordial concurrence of the brethren of the Grand Lodge."

The surplus funds of the Grand Lodge, to the amount of $6,000 were donated to the Widows and Orphans' Home.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was not concurred in.

The following resolutions were adopted:

"No person shall be initiated, passed or raised in any subordinate lodge in this Jurisdiction who is engaged in the manufacture for sale or in the sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage. * * *

"*Resolved*, That the Committee on Jurisprudence be directed to investigate and report to the next meeting of this Grand Lodge (1) the best means, in the opinion of the committee, of raising a yearly, definite sum for the support and maintenance of the Widows and Orphans' Home; (2) whether or not it would be best, in the opinion of said committee, for the Grand Lodge of Tennessee to own and control the Widows and Orphans' Home."

Bros. H. H. Ingersoll and Robert Walton presented a very good report on Correspondence. Our Proceedings failed to reach their hands.

Lodges, 426; members, 17,766; decrease, 165.

Phillip N. Matlock (Kenton), G. M.

John B. Garrett (Nashville), G. S.

TEXAS.

60th Communication, Houston, December 3, 1895.

Gus Garrison, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"Temporarily, we are perhaps poorer than ever before. The close,

hard, financial condition of the country has made its impress upon all; yet we are richer in experience and wiser in that which is best for us than we have ever been.

"Although the hard and stringent financial condition of the country has made its impress upon all the institutions of the country, yet we can say with gratification that Masonry still prospers in the Lone Star State. Not that it has, in the year just past, made those wonderful strides in progress that have compelled the admiration of the world, yet, with steady step, it has marched forward, onward, upward. Of one thing we are assured, that the standard of Masonry is being gradually elevated. Slowly but surely, the disciples of the square and compass are tending to a full realization of the fact that the success of Masonry depends upon its high standard of morality, and that the low, the vile and the immoral have no place in our ranks.

"From every portion of the State come words of good cheer. We are slowly but surely prospering. We are taking hold of a permanent and lasting prosperity that, if rightly divined, will insure to our posterity all that has ever been contemplated by the most sanguine of our supporters."

Five new lodges were formed.

The following quotation gives probably the latest information as to the position of the Grand Lodge of Mexico:

"Owing to the fact that our Grand Lodge did, in 1891, after satisfactory investigation, see proper to recognize the Gran Dieta Symbolica of Mexico, and that our recognition has been seconded by the Grand Lodge of New York only, and our action as a Grand Lodge having been made the subject of rather severe criticism by some, I am of opinion that the present status of Masonry in our neighboring republic deserves some notice at my hand. I am proud to say that since our Grand Lodge took the action referred to, we have been furnished with numerous evidences of the wisdom of our course and its salutary effect, and that the constant tendency of Masonry in Mexico has been upward and onward, and the Gran Dieta as a supreme body, by its decrees of 13th August last, has removed every doubt that may have remained in the minds of any one in reference to its determination to adhere to the ancient and time honored landmarks of Masonry.

"Should the action of the Gran Dieta be sustained and acquiesced in by its subordinate or constituent Grand Lodges, and we hope it may, we see no reason why that body should not receive universal recognition from the Sovereign Grand Bodies of the world.

"Some provincial peculiarities of Mexican Masonry may be the subject of hypercriticism and some may, from our peculiar standpoint, be open to legitimate criticism, but from testimony furnished me by reliable brethren, who have visited lodges in the Republic, I am satisfied that, when it comes to a practical illustration of that mysterious tie that unites men of different countries, sects and opinions, we must admit that Masonry in Mexico, in that particular especially, commands our profound respect.

"In reference to this matter I am told they outstrip us; that true Masons in Mexico, as well as with us, realize the powerful influence of Masonry upon the inner, or moral part of our nature, and that, should it fail to make them better men, it would fail in its mission,

was beautifully exemplified in the declaration of a prominent Mexican Mason, at Diaz, Mexico, at a banquet given by Integridad Lodge last June to some of our visiting Texas Masons, when he said: 'My brethren, this is a delightful occasion, and Masonry is a grand institution, with beautiful symbolisms, but we must ever keep in mind that the true Mason is he who is one in here!' (pointing to his heart.) This expression, made by a Mexican Mason, was a noble declaration, and I am informed met the prompt and hearty endorsement of all present, a majority of whom were Mexican Masons.

"Our visiting masons, we are informed, are made to feel perfectly at home with them, and though as citizens of different nationalities, the turbid Rio Grande may separate our countries from each other politically, yet as Masons we are one.

"We are informed by R. W. Bro. Ermillo G. Canton, Grand Secretary of the Gran Dieta, that 'our Gran Dieta is a legal, regular, solid founded Masonic body, constituted for the Masonic government of the Mexican Republic and formed by the State Grand Lodges. We worked the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite without any intolerance on behalf of other Rites. We have only jurisdiction over the first three degrees (Blue Masonry), and no command over higher degrees, which work separate from the Gran Dieta.'

"We further learn from him that prior to the issuance of the edicts of August 13th, last, i. e., under date of July 3d, 1894, the Grand Secretary says: 'We are by no means opposed to the Bible, but cannot enforce the use in our first degree work, and therefore we leave every lodge at liberty. The Bible is used with us in the Third Master Mason Degree. Four York Lodges are built (as far as we can understand) upon a Protestant platform, and hence the use of the Bible. The material of our Scottish Lodges is the broken up Catholic element, whose opinion about the Bible is not at all equal to yours. Nevertheless, we hold and keep the Bible as our one of the Three Grand Lights of Masonry, viz.: Bible, Square and Compass, but we cannot enforce the Bible to occupy the first place in lodges.

"He further adds: 'The Bible is not banished from our lodge rooms, because we allow and grant it to every lodge who thinks it useful or indispensible. Anahuac (English), George Washington (American), Toltic (American), Germania (German), and the most Mexican lodges use the Bible in their secret work.' On the 3d day of July, 1894, there were under the jurisdiction of the Gran Dieta Simbolica seventeen (17) Grand Lodges, State Lodges with 225 Blue Lodges, having a total membership of 21,992. There were, also, in the Republic at that time, two so-called Grand Lodges, which did not acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Grand Dieta, viz.: Vera Cruz and in the City of Mexico, the Federal District, these two latter having subordinate to them twenty lodges with about 500 members.

"R. W. Bro. Sam R. Hamilton, District Deputy Grand Master of the Twentieth Masonic District of Texas, who is also a member of our 'Committee on Work,' made a trip to the City of Mexico in June last. While there he visited both Scottish and York Rite Lodges, and being aware of the charge which has been made against the Masonry of that country, and upon the criticisms passed upon the action of our Grand Lodge for publicly and openly recognizing it, made as far as he was able to do, an investigation of the facts, so as to enable him to determine the truth or falsity of those charges.

"He visited Integridad Lodge, No. 96, at old Piedras Negras (now Diaz), a strictly Spanish or Mexican lodge, and was present at the

opening and closing exercises. He visited also Toltec Lodge, in the City of Mexico, and assisted in conferring the third degree upon three candidates. In reference to his visit to Toltec Lodge he says:

"Not having a voucher present, I was required to prove myself exactly in the same manner and by the same tests as in vogue with us, and found that no greater difference in the opening ceremonies or degree work existed than we find in our own state between different lodges or between our lodge and those in other states in the United States. By special request, I gave the three brethren the 'Explanation,' or 'Lecture,' and 'Charge' in full, monitorial and all, as authorized by our Grand Lodge, it being entirely applicable to the 'work' as rendered by them.

"Bro. Hamilton further says: 'They use the same charts, M. C. Pillars and other accessories, so far as I could see, as we do. The furniture of the lodge was all in its proper place both in Itegridad and Toltec Lodges. I saw nothing the least irregular or objectionable in either lodge, and I must say that after visiting these two lodges, one of them strictly Mexican, working in the Scottish Rite at that, I left the Republic of Mexico firmly impressed from my experience and contact with Mexican Masons and Masonry, that if these were fair samples, then our Grand Lodge and that of New York had acted both rightly and in the true spirit of Masonry in recognizing the Gran Dieta.'

"While in Mexico I made the acquaintance of several reliable parties with whom I have corresponded since my return. Through said correspondence, which I consider eminently trustworthy, I have been informed that the Gran Dieta has revoked all charters for women's lodges (whatever the character under the old system may have been) and forbidden the presence of women in any lodge working under its jurisdiction, and that it has been re-organized so as to correct several other (minor) hitherto objectionable features. Thus we see that the Grand Lodges of Texas and New York, by the exercise of the true Masonic spirit in extending to our struggling brethren in the land of the Montezumas a helping hand have greatly aided in their efforts at reformation.

"Bro. Hamilton further says: 'We must remember that their surroundings have been unpropitious, and that Masonry has come up through great tribulations, in a land rocked in the cradle of successive revolutions. That the leading government officials, both civil and military, together with the principal railroad officials and leading business men of the country, are Masons, should be greatly to the credit, and not discredit of the order in the Republic, when we take into consideration the wonderful improvement in the condition of the people and the rapid advancement made in every respect under the wise and prudent administration of President Diaz, who was until very recently, Grand Master of the Gran Dieta Simbolica."

The Grand Master highly compliments their 56 District Deputies; who have been full of energy and zeal.

As to the jurisdiction over rejected candidates, the Mississippi rules were not concurred in, but the following was adopted:

"*Resolved*, (1) That, after the period of five years shall have elapsed since the rejection of an applicant for the degrees in Masonry, he having moved into the jurisdiction of another lodge either in this or any

Grand jurisdiction, and having applied for the degrees, then the lodge applied to shall correspond with the rejecting lodge as to the former standing and character of the applicant, and if upon the information so obtained he be deemed worthy, the lodge may proceed in the case without further reference to the action of the rejecting lodge.

"*Resolved*, (2) That a lodge in this Grand jurisdiction may give at its option, by unanimous vote, a certificate to one of its Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts about to move into the jurisdiction of another lodge, dismissing and recommending him for advancement, and that upon the issuance of such certificate his name shall be dropped from the roll of the lodge thus dismissing him, the lodge thereby losing further jurisdiction over him."

Bro. Thomas M. Matthews again reports on Correspondence. Canada for 1895 has a good notice. From the following letter, it seems that Mexican Masonry is badly mixed yet:

"Our Gran Dieta is a legal, regular, solid founded Masonic body, constituted for the Masonic Government of the Mexican Republic and formed by the State Grand Lodges. We work the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, but without any intolerance on behalf of other rites. We have only jurisdiction over the first three degrees (Blue Masonry) and no command over higher degrees, which works separate from the Gran Dieta. For instance, under charter of the Gran Dieta are constituted the following lodges:

"Riego, No. 4 (Spanish Lodge), Scottish Rite.

"Anahuac, No. 141 (English Lodge), Scottish Rite.

"Hidalgo-Washington, No. 145 (American Lodge), York Rite.

"Washington-Juarez, No. 161 (American Lodge), York Rite,

"George Washington, No. 195, (American Lodge), Scottish Rite.

"Toltec, No. 214 (American Lodge), York Rite.

"Germania, 219 (German Lodge), Old English Rite.

"These facts prove our tolerance towards foreign systems.

"Your questions have met already with our full consideration in our reply to the Missouri Grand Lodge, whose Committee on Foreign Correspondence did not judge it convenient to publish it.

"Therefore we beg to state that here exist a woman lodge, established some years ago. It is now under auspices and protection of our Gran Dieta, but by no means under jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge, El Valle de Mexico No. 1.

"This lodge has no seige (evidently meaning seat or representation) in our Grand Lodge. On festival occasions this lodge has been invited, but members of our Grand Lodge and dependent lodges are not allowed to visit this women lodge. It is a separate organization, which is governed by itself and controlled by our Gran Dieta. No article of our constitution provides its legal existence.

"The Bible is not banished from our lodge rooms, because we allow and grant it to every lodge who thinks it useful or indispensible. Anahuac (English), George Washington (American), Toltec (American), Germania Lodge (German), and the most Mexican lodges use the Bible in their secret work.

"We are by no means opposed to the Bible, but cannot enforce the use of in our first degree work, and therefore we leave every lodge at liberty. The Bible is used with us in the third Master Mason degree. Your York lodges are built (as far as we can understand) upon a Protestant platform, and hence the use of the Bible. The material

of our Scottish lodges is the broken up Catholic element, whose opinion about the Bible is not at all equal to yours. *Nevertheless we hold and keep the Bible as our one of three Grand Lights of Masonry, viz.: Bible, Square and Compasses* (italics ours), but we cannot enforce the Bible to occupy the first place in Lodges.

"The old charges (landmarks), Anderson's Old English constitution, 1717, enjoy full respect in all lodges working under charter of our Gran Dieta, but we are sorry to state that most of your American Grand Lodges diverge amongst themselves about the tenor of landmarks. They are never lectured in American Lodges, and I believe are unknown to the greater part of their members. Which we add is much too true.

"Fraternally yours,

"ERMILIO G. CANTON,

"Grand Secretary of the Gran Dieta and Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge, El Valle de Mexico, No. 1."

Lodges, 582; members, 28,403; increase, 1067.

B. R. Abernethey (Gonzales), G. M.

John Watson (Houston), G. S.

UTAH.

25th Communication, Salt Lake, January 21, 1896.

Alvin C. Emerson, G. M.

The address is an excellent paper and we are glad to copy from it:

"It has been said that Masonry runs in lines parallel with the conditions of the country in which it exists. This may be reasonably true regarding some localities. The affairs of men undoubtedly influence, in a more or less degree, all things created by man, and the condition of the Craft in Utah has perhaps, in some measure, been effected by the general depression.

"But the men of the Great West have a happy faculty of rising above the conditions that seemingly hinder the progress of those in more 'enlightened' regions, and believe that their greatest glory is in rising quickly after every fall, whether enforced or self-afflicted. That this is true, is proven by the fact that the material prosperity of the denizens of this 'un-enlightened' region compares most favorably with that of the people of any other section, and, that in spite of the fact that one of our most vital and remunerative industries has had the life so effectually crushed out of it that our people were seemingly completely stunned, yet have they raised themselves above these conditions and have proved that Utah has been a paradise for rich and poor alike, as compared with other sections of our country.

"Thus Masonry in Utah, upheld by this class of men, despite the fact that conditions have not materially changed during the past three years at least, has grown steadily and healthily the past year, and the gain in numbers and kind of material has been great in comparison.

"I am pleased to report that peace and harmony prevail among all our brethren and among the lodges. The zeal evinced by the members of the Craft is beyond praise, and they are entitled to our highest commendation for the manner in which they have accomplished

this work. The officers of the constitutent lodges have studiously endeavored to perfect themselves in a uniformity of work, thus meeting the requirements of this Grand Lodge. It is a pleasure to report their faithful work and the splendid results achieved.

"The social features have been given a prominence truly commendable, and it has been a veritable pleasure to attend on such occasions. I desire to especially commend the promptness and ability which the brethren display at these times of festivity in their speeches and remarks which have done so much to make these meetings enjoyable and instructive. This should be encouraged by all means.

> "Let us see the old faces beam in the old places;
> Let us taste the old dishes, and wish the old wishes;
> Let us sing the old songs and forget the old wrongs."

"Some of our subordinate lodges still adhere to their plan of keeping away from lodge banquets all intoxicating beverages. All praise be given them. The inflexible, invariable rule, should be, among all the lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, to never permit the use of intoxicating drinks of any kind or character in or about the lodge room, or at any Masonic banquet or spread.

"To permit this subversive of the great principles and teachings of Masonry; it is wrong in every sense of the term. It is a pollution of our sacred altar to thus place a temptation before a brother who has been sworn before that same altar to discountenance and avoid such unnecessary excess. We obligate ourselves at the altar to protect the widows and the fatherless, and the honor and characters of each other; yet if these things are permitted, the defenceless and the dishonored may hurl back our words, and say that at the very foot of the altar did we permit the temptation and countenance the indulgence.

"There is no middle path to be pursued in this matter. There can be no temporizing with this potent spirit of evil, and I sincerely trust that never again will it be said of any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction that it permitted the use of or indulgence in any spirituous or intoxicating liquors at its festal board."

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

A programme was laid out for the celebration of their "Quarter Centennial" next year.

A new Constitution was adopted.

Bro. Christopher Diehl presented his twentieth report on Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 56 Grand Lodges, including those of Canada for 1895.

Lodges, 9; members, 738; increase, 62.

William T. Dalby, (Salt Lake), G. M.

Christopher Diehl, (Salt Lake), G. S.

VERMONT.

102nd Communication, Burlington, June 12, 1895.

John H. Whipple, G. M.

The returns of the year show a gratifying increase in the membership, a sound and conservative policy in accepting

propositions and a salutary observance of discipline. The several districts are to be congratulated upon the wise selection of their representatives, and the Grand Lodge has an efficient staff of instructors. We quote two of the decisions of the Grand Master:

"A lodge may receive and act upon the application of a petitioner for the degrees if he has lived in the state one full year, although he may have resided within the jurisdiction of said lodge but a few weeks provided his removal is genuine, and is to be permanent, and the constitutional requirements are fulfilled.

"A by-law which provides that 'a member in arrears for dues cannot vote upon petitions for initiation or affiliation,' is in direct conflict with the Grand Lodge regulations which make it the duty of every member present to vote, and should therefore be rescinded."

A beautiful and appropriate bronze medal was struck, commemorating the completion of their hundredth year.

A Masonic Temple is to be erected in Burlington by the Grand Lodge at a cost of about $50,000. The lodges are to be assessed thirty cents per capita for this purpose until further orders. The Past Masters degree has now a recognized standing in Vermont, by the adoption of the following report:

"Your Special Committee appointed last year to formulate a ritual for the Past Master's Degree beg leave to report that they have performed that duty, and inasmuch as their report cannot be read to the Grand Lodge, as none but actual Past Masters and Masters already invested can be permitted to hear or see it, the committee have submitted their report to the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters present, and immediately following this report will be found their recommendation.

Fraternally submitted.

D. N. NICHOLSON, } Special
W. S. NAY, } Committee.

RECOMMENDATION.

"We, the undersigned, having carefully examined the report of the Special Committee on Past Master's degree, do hereby recommend that it be adopted by this Grand Lodge, and that the same committee be continued with power to have said report published in secret ritual form at the expense of this Grand Lodge, the bills to be paid by the Grand Treasurer when approved by the Grand Master and the Committee, and that said Committee shall act as sales agents for the Grand Lodge in the disposition of said rituals when completed until the next Annual Communication of this grand body, turning over the money received to the Grand Secretary when an amount of $25 has accumulated in their hands.

"We further recommend that every lodge in the State be required to purchase one copy through its W. M., to be held in trust by him and transmitted to his successor in office, and that each succeeding Master transmit it to his successor.

"We further recommend that each Past Master and W. M. already invested, in good standing, be permitted to purchase a copy if he chooses, and we would advise such purchase."

Upon the question of Masonic relief, the position of the Grand Lodge is that "Charity in all cases must be voluntary; not compulsory. While it is a Masonic duty, the lodge or brother bestowing it must be the judge of that duty."

Bro. Marsh O. Perkins reviews the Proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges, including Canada for 1894.

Lodges, 101; members, 9,521; increase, 55.

Kittredge Haskins (Brattleboro), G. M.

Warren G. G. Reynolds (Burlington), G. S.

VIRGINIA.

118th Communication, Richmond, Dec. 3, 1895.

J. P. Fitzgerald, G. M.

The Grand Master is decidedly opposed to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction. Their Masonic Home has been greatly improved. Five new lodges were formed.

It was decided by the Grand Lodge that the established Masonic law of Virginia does not recognize as valid any claim of a lodge of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates.

A special committee was appointed to consider the subject of lodge by-laws, which in many cases contain unnecessary or illegal provisions.

Their Masonic Home has twice as many orphans as they had last year and they are in need of funds. Five thousand dollars is the estimated cost of maintenance for the year, $3,000 to paid by the Grand Lodge, and the balance to be raised by subscriptions. The following was passed :—

"*Resolved*, That the Worshipful Master of every subordinate lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction be requested to appoint a committee, of which he shall be chairman, to raise by voluntary contribution, or as they deem best, as much as possible for this grand charity."

We extend our sympathy in regard to the death of their Grand Secretary, William B. Isaacs, who was in office as Deputy Grand Secretary and Grand Secretary for over fifty years. He was widely known and highly esteemed throughout the Masonic world. A memorial hall is to be erected to his memory on the grounds of the Masonic Home.

The Constitution was amended so as to prohibit the installation of officers in public Correct.

The reports of the Grand Lecturers and District Deputies are very encouraging and show the excellect state of the Craft.

A report on Correspondence is promised for next year.

Lodges, 256; members, 12,572; increase, 93.

J. P. Fitzgerald (Farmville), G. M.

George W. Carrington (Richmond), G. S.

WASHINGTON.

38th Communication, Olympia, June 11, 1895.
Joseph M. Taylor, G. M.
The Grand Master indulges in the following retrospect :—

"Thirty-seven times has this glorious King of Day made his annual circuit since first the emblem of authority in the hands of the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington fell upon the pedestal in the Grand East in this beautiful city of Olympia and proclaimed that the grand principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice; the universal Brotherhood of Man under the watchful and omnipotent all-seeing eye of the Grand Master of the Universe were to be henceforth taught, practiced and promulgated in every valley and upon every hill and every hamlet in this magnificent overgreen commonwealth of the west.

"The constituent lodges then were but four, which have multiplied in numbers more than twenty-fold, until more than one hundred respond to roll-call at Grand Communications.

"Nearly all the noble men concerned in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Washington have passed over the river and have entered into the joys of the Grand Lodge on High. A few still remain with us who have been faithful to the sublime principles of Masonry during all these years. They are here to aid and encourage us with their counsel and advice. Let us hope that they may be preserved to us during many years to come.

How wisely they built perhaps they knew not, but we looking backward over the history of our beloved order in this Grand Jurisdiction, realize in fullest force the energy, preservence, indomitable courage and the zeal for the causes which were required to maintain the Masonic lodges at that early date in the 'Wild West.' All honor to these noble brethren! We little realize these latter days, while carried swiftly along on the fleet wings of electricity in our comfortable car to the lodge rooms, the trials and difficulties which beset our brethren of the early days of Masonry in Washington who frequently must 'paddle their own canoe' many weary miles over the broad waters of Puget Sound, or else ride a cayuse over the plains of Walla Walla in order to enjoy the benefits of lodge communications.

"Brethren, let us remember with gratitude the grand foundation work done on the Masonic edifice in Washington by those noble men, and resolve while working on the superstructure, to bear in mind their noble self-sacrifice in bestowing upon us this goodly Masonic heritage in this beautiful land of the setting sun.

"Brethren, I extend to you one and all a cordial and fraternal greeting and bid you welcome to our thirty-eighth Grand Communication. We have assembled to deliberate and counsel with one another in regard to the welfare of our beloved Masonry. The auspices are most favorable and encouraging. Peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. Our relations with all sister jurisdictions are most pleasant. With no strife nor discord to mar the peace and serenity of our fraternal communication, we have much for which to be grateful and thankful to our God who permits us to dwell together in unity. Let us then lift our hearts in joy and gratitude and sound the praises of Him that doeth all things wisely."

Three new lodges were formed.

We must also find room for the concluding part of the magnificent oration delivered by Bro. William H. Upton :

"I have said the dawn of the 15th century revealed the existence of a society of this kind *nearly* everywhere in England. But in London a far different picture is seen.

"The publication last year, in Brother Condor's remarkable book, 'Records of the Hole Crafte and Fellowship of Masons," of the records of the London 'Company of Masons' discloses a remarkable fact—discloses what we might expect to find in a great city if our secret fraternity and the guild of stone-masons were originally separate societies ; and one which I am unable to account for on any other theory.

"It shows that the London Company of Masons—by far the greatest of all guilds of stone-masons, and the body which possessed within London all those exclusive privileges respecting the Masons' trade which were elsewhere possessed by what I may style the combined society of which I have been speaking—a guild which has probably existed from the thirteenth century and which has continued an unbroken existence to the present day, never possessed the secrets of our fraternity. This fact is not new, but it is a pregnant one when considered in connection with another fact disclosed for the first time by the publication of these records, namely, that from the date of the earliest extant record of the London Company, 1620—there existed under the wing of the non-secret, operative guild, and meeting in its hall, a lodge of our secret fraternity.

"How much earlier it had existed, there, as I have said, to existing records of this Company to show, but I am inclined to think a well know entry in the City Records of London points to its existence in 1376.* Inventories and other records of the Company show that the lodge was in existence in 1666—(the year before the great fire) and in 1675 and 1682. They also clearly show that while the secret lodge may have been composed exclusively of members of the non-secret Company, membership of that great guild did not admit to membership of the lodge, and that many members of the guild were never admitted to the secrets of the lodge. In other words, in all these years, in London the two societies, the guild of stone-masons, possessing valuable trade privileges but no esoteric doctrine, and the Lodge of Masons, possessing a priceless esotery but no trade privileges—these two societies, largely composed of the same members, and meeting in the same hall, remained entirely and utterly distinct.

"Whether or not the separate existence, through so long a period of time, of these two closely connected institutions leads you, as it has led me, to a belief in their separate origin, the fact disclosed at least throw much light on the history of our fraternity just before the organization of the Grand Lodge in 1717.

"*City Record, LX. 46, ('Hole Crafte,' 69.) In 1376, the right of electing civic dignitaries, etc., of London having been transferred to the City Companies, a list was made of the 48 Companies who sent representatives to the Court of the Common Council. Of these, the 'Freemasons' sent 2 and the Masons 4. But the 'Freemasons' were stricken from the list; their representatives were added to those of of the 'Masons,' and they (the 'Freemasons') do not appear in the returns of future years. Does not this indicate that the lodge of our fraternity was at first mistaken for a City Company, and that the error was promptly corrected?

"Upon this subject, I enter now. Let me say, however, that if Sir Christopher Wren, and the long line of eminent Londoners whom Anderson and other writers of fictitious history have styled Grand Masters, had any connection with 'Masonry,' it was with the London guild of builders and not, so far as we have any evidence, with our secret fraternity.*

"On the other hand, it was into the secret fraternity that Dr. Stukely was initiated in 1721, 'suspecting it to be the remains of the mysteries of the ancients'; and Elias Ashmore in 1646.

"In 1666 occurred the great fire of London. The conflagration covered 436 acres. No less than 13,200 houses and 89 churches were destroyed. Rebuilding this great city furnished an unprecedented amount of employment for stonemasons for nearly two generations, and of course the London Company of Masons flourished. But when the work was finished, a vast number of workmen were without employment. About 1,708 the Company, to keep up its membership, had to reduce its fees. Hard times with the operative masons no doubt affected the secret fraternity; and at last, in 1716, 'the few lodges at London'—we are told by our earliest historian—'finding themselves neglected by Sir Christopher Wren, thought fit to'—What? Elect a *new* Grand Master? No; 'thought fit,' as I interpret the record, to cut loose from the operative guild, and elect, for the first time, a Grand Master; —'thought fit,' says the historian, 'to cement under a *Grand Master* as the Center of Union and Harmony.'

"If not in guilds, where did our fraternity originate?

"I do not know. I am a disciple of the 'historical school' of Masonic students. I am not only willing but anxious to discard those idle fictions with which romancers have marred, where they have attempted to decorate, our history.

"I do not, therefore, ask you to believe anything that has not been proven; I do not ask you to admit that our fraternity is identical with those who cultivated the ancient mysteries or those which taught our truths before the mysteries arose.

"I do not assert it, because I can not prove it. But no man has disproved it. No known fact is inconsistent with it.

"Impressed in the solid sandstone of the Connecticut valley are to be found to-day foot-prints made by birds walking in the soft soil thousands of years ago,—foot-prints which are the only surviving records that such birds ever existed.

"The tops of our highest hills are scarred by deep scratches caused by the pressure and motion of glaciers which no human eye ever saw.

"No bird track was ever found that was not made by a bird. No glacier mark exists on mountain top over which a glazier did not plow. No mason's mark was ever placed on the foundation stone of an ancient temple without a hand to carve it. The Book of the Dead, deposited beside a mummy a thousand years before Joseph went into Egypt, contains no Masonic secret which some men did not know when that book was written.

"Asking no man to believe what is not proven, certain propositions may be stated as established beyond all question—not by the assertion of Masons, but by the researches of the philologist and the Orientalist, and by the ripe scholarship of the world. Among these propositions are: That the conception of the existence of one

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* I do not mean to deny that Wren, late in life, may have been initiated into the fraternity.

Supreme Deity existed among our ancestors in their prehistoric home on the table-lands of Bactria before the Aryan separations and the migrations into Scandinavia, India, Indra and Babylonia—perhaps into China and Egypt; that that conception was preserved into, and in, the new homes of the migrating peoples as an esoteric cult, by an organization of men which can not be better described than as a secret brotherhood; that since the dawn of history there has never been a time when such a brotherhood, devoted to that sacred purpose, did not, under one name or another, exist; that although the written records of Freemasonry under its present name date back five hundred years, it has no record or tradition of an origin independent of that primitive brotherhood, or of a time when it was not charged with that same high and sacred mission; that although various religious systems which have arisen, flourished and died, or which still survive, and which have usually been intimately connected with us or our predecessors, have partly or entirely recognized the great truth which we defend, and have wrought incalculable good to the children of men; yet, in them all, human errors have in time become mingled with God-given truth, and their slender tapers have so fluttered in the contending winds of strange doctrines, or been so dimmed by the noxious gases of polytheism, pantheism, idolatory or anthropomorphism, that, in all human probability, but for the pure fire ever burning upon our altar, the light of truth might have perished from the earth; and that it is due chiefly if not solely to the fraternity (or, if you prefer, the fraternities) which we represent, not only that religious toleration exists, but that the conception of the Great I AM which was committed to the safe repository of faithful breasts before ABRAHAM was, survived the polytheism of Babylon, of Egypt, of Greece and of Rome, and the scepticism and superstition of the dark ages, and to-day is not only comprehended and taught clearly or dimly, by an hundred discordant sects, which have ever delighted to war and contend among themselves,

'quite persuaded
That all the apostles would have done as they did,'

but survives in all its pristine purity in our lodges.

"Deny if you will that the history of those ancient brotherhoods is a part of the history of Freemasonry. But you cannot deny that the great mission which they performed, and the great truths which they preserved, are the possession and heritage of the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

"'Free and Accepted Masons'! Where shall I find other words so sweet, so dear, so sacred or so pregnant as these, to the ears and heart of him who has learned the great truths which Masonry unfolds to the minds and souls of her worthy sons? Contemplating the mighty truths which lie behind her veil, forever concealed from the unworthy even should they gain access to our courts, her true votary finds that, like her twin sister nature,

'she speaks
A varied language: For his gayer hours
She had a voice of gladness, and a smile
And eloquence of beauty; and she glides
Into his darker musings with a m ld
And gentle sympathy that steals away
Their sharpness ere he is aware.'"

The Grand Lecturer visited all the lodges and instructed them in the work. He reports substantial progress.

It was determined to locate the Grand Lodge permanently at the City of Seattle.

The report on correspondence is by Bro. William H. Upton, one of the brightest minds in the Fraternity, an enthusiastic student of Masonry and well informed on all its branches. In his review of Wisconsin, we find the following:—

"Our studies thus far lead us to believe: That about two hundred years ago, the terms 'Fellow' and 'Master' were usually, or least, frequently used as equivalents; but that centuries before that, the term 'Master' almost invariably meant 'The Master' as distinguished from a mere 'Fellow;' that in those days, long before the 'work' of Masonry was divided into three degrees, there was a secret ceremony, to which mere Fellows were not admitted, in which a Fellow was made a Master (that is the Master); that that ceremony was not our third degree; that when the degree system came into use, and the third degree was used, so to speak, in making Fellows 'virtual' but not 'actual' Masters, and the term 'Master' thus acquired an additional meaning,—or, upon another theory, when the F. C. degree was invented, and the conferring of the knowledge formally given to *all* Fellows was deferred to a *third* ceremony, and those who received it became 'Master Masons,'—the older ceremony became. or rather *continued to be* a part of the ceremony of making, by installation, a Fellow or 'virtual' Master (Master Mason), an 'actual' Master (Master of a Lodge, or Passed Mason); that that ceremony has been used continuously, in some jurisdictions, from the earliest times, and is the one used in Convocations of 'actual' Past Masters—more correctly, '*Passed*' Masters; and (though, of this we feel less sure), that that ceremony, and *not* our third degree, is 'the Master's part' which Laurence Dermott accused the founders of the Grand Lodge of the 'Moderns' of being ignorant of. Thus it will be seen that we believe the essential portion of the so-called Past Master's degree to be, so far as it has been correctly handed down, *one of the very oldest ceremonies in Masonry*. And that is the reason why, while denying it in the name of a 'degree' we earnestly question the propriety of its abolition by Grand Lodges—the oldest of which is probably is junior by several centuries.

"Of decision No. 20—that *three* may open a Lodge of Master Masons,—we would say only this, for we must condense:—

"From time immemorial it has, rightly or wrongly, been considered the duty of the Master to decide when he will open and close his lodge. His office is the most ancient one known to Masonry. It existed centuries before there were Grand Lodges or, in our opinion, Grand Masters—from time immorial. It is an office of importance; its duties are weighty; its responsibilities grave. For centuries the prosperity of the Craft depended largely upon the qualifications of the Master; he was given vast responsibities and large discretionary power; and we still held him responsible for the welfare of his lodge. He is, to your Grand Lodge officials, what the captain of a man-of-war is to the civilian officials of the navy department, or the locomotive engineer to the train dispatcher—bound to obey orders, but possessing certain responsbilities of his own. Now then: You

summon that officer before the Grand Lodge to explain why he opened his lodge with only five Masons present. He answers you: 'I am responsible for the well-being of that lodge; to a certain extent I am bound to see that no harm happens to the commonwealth of Masonry; in my judgment the good of the Craft required that that lodge should be opened, then and there; I exercised my best discretion upon a matter that all my predecessors have considered a matter of discretion; I did what ten thousand Masters have done before me; and exercised what I believe to be an inherent, immemorial and inalineable prerogative of my office. *Show me the law I have violated.*' It is not plain that *the burden of proof is upon you* to point to a an immemorial law of Masonry, or a *valid* exactment of the Grand or particular lodge, declaring that some particular number other than the number mentioned in the ritual must be present? *Where will you find that law?* You will find no restriction mentioned in any version of the ancient Masonic MS. constitutions or old charges. The following are fair samples of the little that these say:

"'Noe person (of what degree soever) bee accepted a free Mason, unless he shall have a lodge of five free Masons.' (One of the 'New Articles' in *Harl.* MS. No. 1942, circa A.D. 1670).

"'Iim that no mr or fellow shall presum to create a masson without of his fellows 5 or 6 at the least.' (*Dumfries Kilwinning MS. No. 4*, circa 1740).

"What we learn from Plot's 'Natural History of Staffordshire,' 1686, and the early alleged exposes ('Flying Post,' 1723; 'The Grand Mystery of the Freemasons Discovered,' 2d Ed. 1725; 'Masonry Dissected,' 1730: 'Jachin & Boaz,' 1762; and Sloan MS. 3229), is all against you. The latter, a fair sample of these, says:

"'A just and perfect lodge is two Interprintices, two fellow craftes and two Mastrs more or fewer the more the merrier the fewer the Bettr Chear but if need require five will serve that is two Interprintices two fellow Craftes and one Mastr on the highest hill or Lowest Valley of the World without the crow of a Cock or the bark of a Dogg.'

"The modern ritual—even in those jurisdictions where the word 'anciently' has been inserted in it at this place—is against you.

"The English practice, apparently unchanged since degrees first existed, holds that with seven in the first, five in the second and three in the third you may do anything that can be done in a lodge open on that degree, and is against you. Every scrap of evidence yet found in very old minutes is against you. The common practice; the fact that there is no uniform practice, or ancient tradition of any kind on the the subject, are all against you. In fact there is not a shred of evidence even tending to show that there ever was a rule or usages of general prevalence or immemorial antiquity prescribing any restriction other than the 7, 5 and 3 of the ritual. How then will you support your *onus probandi?*

"The idea, and the fact that there is no uniform tradition that the number seven is necessary for the transaction of business arose in this way: Until quite recently, all business was transacted while open in the first degree, as is still the case in British and many other lodges. Suppose we admit that it takes even seven to open on the first degree; yet when you prescribe that business shall be done in a Master's Lodge, you elect to designate a lodge of three or more. Your business may be important, but we cannot change the laws of Masonry to accommodate it."

Canada for 1894 receives due attention and this comment:

"We find little of general interest in the body of the Proceedings (293 and c. pp). The printer is enriched by the insertion of 170 pages of reports of D. D. G. M's,—documents which appear to us of no earthly use to gods or men, although Brother Drummond and others better qualified to judge than we are certify that they are valuable. We should regard it as an intolerable nuisance to have a District Deputy mousing around our lodge; and we think a lodge which *needs* such a physician ought to go out of existence. We would give all these 170 pages for the half-page of recapitulation of statistics which the Grand Secretary does not favor us."

In his conclusion, he has the following article on Masonry among the negroes,—

"The mere fact that more than 27,000 of our fellow-citizens, unknown to us as members of the fraternity, claim to be affiliated Masons in good standing, and regularly study our mysteries in 1,300 lodges which we never visit, is alone sufficient to justify a brief reference to Masonry among the colored men of America. The fact that the Grand Lodge of Florida has recently accepted from the State a charter which expressly limits her authority to Masonry among men 'of the white race,' as well as some other circumstances alluded to in earlier parts of this report, tend to call attention to what have been termed 'the minor Grand Lodges,' and to raise the question of their legitimacy.

"Bent upon avoiding unnecessary controversy, we propose to express no opinion upon the latter subject, but confine ourself to a brief statement of their history and statistics.

"On March 6, 1775, an army lodge, warranted by the Grand Lodge of England, and attached to one of the regiments stationed, under the General Gage, in Boston, Mass., initiated Prince Hall and fourteen other colored men of Boston into the mysteries of Freemasonry. From that beginning, with small additions from foreign countries, sprang the Masonry among the Negroes of America. These fifteen brethren were probably authorized by the lodge which made them—according to the custom of the day—to assemble as a lodge. At least they did so, but it does not appear that they did any 'work' until after they were regularly warranted. They applied to the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant, March 2, 1784. It was issued to them, as 'African Lodge, No. 459,' with Prince Hall as Master, Sept. 29, 1784, but not received until May 2, 1787. The lodge was organized under the warrant, four days later. It remained upon the English registry—occasionally contributing to the Grand Charity Fund—until, upon the amalgamation of the rival Grand Lodges of the 'Moderns' and the 'Ancients' into the present United G. L. of England, in 1813, it and the other English Lodges in the United States were erased.

"Brother Prince Hall, a man of exceptional ability and energy, worked zealously in the cause of Masonry, and from 1792 until his death in 1807, exercised all the functions of a Provincial Grand Master. In 1797 he issued a license to thirteen black men who had been made Masons in England to 'assemble and work' as a lodge in Philadelphia. Another lodge was organized, by his authority, in Providence, R. I. In 1808 these three lodges joined in forming the

'African Lodge' of Boston—now the 'Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts:' and Masonry gradually spread over the land.

"In 1847 the negro Masons made the mistake, which their white brethren narrowly avoided at times, of forming a National Grand Lodge. This body, when at its zenith in 1867, had twenty Grand Lodges under it—Penn., N. Y., N. J., Del. and Md., we understand, remaining independent; but it fell into decay; its constituent Grand Lodges, one by one, withdrew; so that now, we are informed, its existence is but nominal. Captain W. D. Matthews, of Leavenworth, Kansas, has, we understand, been its head for many years.

"The legitimacy of Masonry among these negroes is acknowledged by the leading Masonic historians, but has been vigorously and bitterly attacked by many eminent writers, some of whom have, in their zeal, even gone to the extent of misquoting documentary evidence. A candid review of the controversy would seem to disclose that the *motives* which inspired the attack were—named in the order of their influence: race feeling; a desire to bolster the dogma of 'exclusive territorial jurisdiction;' Scottish Rite quarrels; real doubt of their legitimacy; and fear of discord among white Masons. Of the *arguments* put forth against the Masonry of the colored men, probably the only one which would receive any consideration at this day were: (1) That Prince Hall was only a Master, not a Provincial Grand Master, and consequently could not warrant lodges; (2) that negro Masons read 'free' where we read 'free-born;' and (3) that their existence violates the 'American doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction.'

"To the first of these objections, the colored men remind us that the usages of the 19th century were not those of the 18th; that all over Europe lodges were formed by men with no higher authority than Prince Hall's, assuming that he was not a Provincial G. M.; they point to numerous examples, from that of Kilwinning Mother Lodge to the Lodge in which Washington was made a Mason, to show that the approval of any *known* Masonic authority was *then* generally considered a sufficient credentinl to justify Masons in working as a lodge. They quote the statement of Bro. Albert Pike in 1875, that—

"'Prince Hall Lodge * * * had a perfect right (as other lodges in Europe, did) to establish other lodges, making itself a mother lodge. That's the way the Berlin lodges—Three Globes and Royal York—became Grand Lodges.'

"And the opinion of Bro. Theodore S. Parvin, a little later:

"'My opinion is that the negroes can make as good a show for the legality of their Grand Lodges as the whites can.'

"Answering the second objection, they contend that 'free-born' is not a landmark, but a Grand Lodge regulation; and that 'free' not 'free-born'—is the reading of the Grand Lodge of England. The third objection takes two forms: *first*, 'that more than one Grand Lodge *cannot* exist in the same territory:' *second*, 'that more than one *ought not* to exist.' To the whole objection they reply that the dogma is no part of the Masonic Institution, but is simply an admittedly an 'American doctrine.' In addition, that, in its first form it is contradicted by all Masonic History in nearly every country on the globe. Against it in its second form some of them do not strenuously object; but plead 'Necessity,' and the fact that no *real* conflict has been occasioned by their existence in practically an unoccupied field—among colored men; and that the *spirit* of the regu-

lation has not been violated. Of course, this brief summary does not do justice to the arguments, on either side. One of the striking things about the controversy is the amount of ability shown by some of the colored men. For example, we do not recall in all Masonic literature, an abler paper than that entitled 'The Negro Mason in Equity,' by M. W. Samuel W. Clark, Grand Master of the colored Masons of Ohio, in 1886.

"In 1875 or 1876 a committee of the (white) Grand Lodge of Ohio, consisting of Brother L. V. Bierce, E. T. Carson, F. Willmer C. A. Woodward and L. H. Pike, reported that they were satisfied 'beyond all question' that colored Freemasonry had a legitimate beginning; and that it had been transmitted to the colored lodges of Ohio. Also, that they had 'most satisfactory and conclusive evidence' that the colored Masons have our rites, ceremonies and esotery. The committee recommended that the colored Grand Lodge of Ohio be recognized as 'a legitimate and independent Grand Lodge' on the sole condition that it changes its name to 'The African Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons of the State of Ohio.' This recommendation was defeated in the white Grand Lodge by a vote of only 390 to 332.

"Upon the question whether they exercise care in guarding the fraternity from the admission of unworthy persons it is to their credit that, while among the whites of the United States one in every 85 is an affiliated Mason, the affiliated negroes are but one in each 273 of their race.

"They have bodies of all the 'high degrees' including the A. & A. S. Rite, and are enjoying—what no Masonic body would be complete without, in those days—a first rate Scottish Rite controversy!

"It is known to a certainty that they possess our secrets and practice our rites. It is therefore, not for the purpose of showing this, but to show how much foundation there is for the claim that *ciphers and keys*, when printed by Grand Lodges, are *carefully guarded*, that we print the following extracts from a private letter, dated March, 1895, from one of their prominent members, a (colored) P. G. M. of Ohio, and a man of unquestionable veracity.

"'We work all of the rituals of the [white] Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters and Grand Commanderies of the United States. The revised rituals, [the printed *secret work*,] of the [white] Grand Lodge of Ohio were in our hands before they were received by many of their own lodges; the revised ritual of the General Grand Chapter, as revised and promulgated at Denver, has been in our Chapters for over eighteen months. We have, also, the entire new ritual of the Templar Orders, which, as you know, only went into operation in January, 1894.'"

A valuable index accompanies this report, giving 186 titles of the principal discussions and quotations.

Lodges, 97; members, 4,959; increase, 98.

William W. Witherspoon (Spokane), G. M.

Thomas M. Reed (Olympia), G. S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

31st Communication, Charleston, Nov. 12, 1895.

G. W. Feidt, G. M.

Freemasonry is keeping step with the development of the

State. Two new lodges were formed and a new Temple built at Charleston.

A committee was appointed to consider the subject of an Orphans' Home and to report the cost of establishment, etc.

The following resolution is self explanatory :

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge be and are hereby returned to Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Odel S. Long, for his very able talk in explanation of the '47th Problem of Euclid' before the Grand Lodge to-night; and that he be invited to deliver an address upon some other emblem or emblems of our time honored institution at the next Grand Annual Communication, should a convenient occasion present itself."

The Grand Secretary again has an excellent report on correspondence, in which our Proceedings of 1895 receive very courteous treatment. After noticing the duties and statements of our District Deputies, he further remarks :

"Such reports as these are marvelous productions, and ought to be copied after by all of the Grand Lodges of the country. If our United States Lodges had such surveillance, they would make far greater headway than they are now doing.

"There are eighteen D. D. G. M.'s in the Grand Lodge of Canada, and every one makes substantially the same kind of a report.

"The Board of Benevolence reports that they had 281 applications for relief during the year, and that they paid out on these application, $8,620.00. I wish to add that this is another great showing."

If we could suggest any improvement in this report, it would be that the original matter should be set up in larger type than the quotations. This would be hailed as a boon by the reviewer.

Lodges, 107 ; members, 5,567 ; increase, 315.

John M Collins (Charleston), G. M.

George W. Atkinson (Wheeling), G. S.

WISCONSIN.

51st Communication, Milwaukee, June 11, 1895.

Hiram W. Sawyer, G. M.

Notwithstanding the business depression, the fraternity in this jurisdiction is prosperous and, generally speaking, is in a satisfactory condition. The Grand Master gives the following good advice :

"*First.* That the examination as to the character and qualifications of candidates for the degrees should be most careful and critical ; and should any intimation against one's character, whether before or after ballot, came to the knowledge of the Master, from a Mason or otherwise, he should cause it to be fully investigated, and, if in his judgment, the interest of the Craft at large demand it, stay proceedings. The desire of a lodge to increase its membership or revenues,

and the friendship and wishes of individual members are subordinate to the interest of the Craft. Nor should it be sufficient that the candidate be a 'good fellow' as the world goes; that he has never done anything very bad; that in these days of rush and money making, he is about as good as the average, and is able to look out for No. 1. This is not Masonry. We have use neither for sharpers, nobodies nor moral wrecks. The candidate to be admitted to the lodge should be able to comprehend, appreciate and, in his daily walk, teach Masonry. Let it be remembered that although valuable lessons are taught, yet the reputation of the Craft is not made in the lodge room. The important duties of Masonry are not performed by the lodge. Masonic duties are personal to every Mason and admonish him to walk uprightly before God and man. Would he be a Mason, he must be a man in all that the term applies. So it is that the character and daily walk of every candidate admitted to the lodge redounds to the honor or dishonor of the Craft."

Three new lodges were formed. All applications to dispense with physical qualifications (and they were many) were denied. The Grand Master ruled that while the proper place for the charter is in the lodge room, its literal presence is not indispensable to a valid commuuication. The following decision also appears to be sound:

"12. Although any member may object to the initiation of a candidate without giving any reason for so doing, yet should the member voluntarily state his reasons, and they be such as Freemasonry can under no circumstances recognize, as for instance that the candidate belongs to a particular political party or to any particular church, if based upon a belief in God, the W. M. should disregard the objection and confer the degree—otherwise Masonry might be forced into the un-Masonic attitude of recognizing party politics and sectarianism in religion. It is an established and unalterable law of Masonry that political and religious controversy must be excluded from the lodge."

The special committee on Masonic relief regret that they are unable to report a general acceptance of their proposition by other Grand Lodges, but they are strongly of the opinion that the obvious necessity of systematic methods in place of the present hap-hazard lack of method will so commend it that this or some similar plan will eventually be accepted. They reiterate their proposal, with the understanding that it will become an agreement between them and all other Grand Lodges taking similar action. Their report was unanimously adopted and the committee continued:

"It is the duty of each lodge to take care of its own members in distress wherever they may be. In case of its inability so to do, this duty devolves upon the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter. It being understood that in no case is the lodge furnishing relief and asking reimbursement to go beyond actual present necessity without express authority from the reimbursing body."

It was resolved that only four-fifths of the ballots cast in

favor of an applicant for affiliation shall be necessary to elect to membership.

Twenty Schools of Instruction were held, and the Grand Lecturer reports good attendance and increasing interest.

Bro. Duncan McGregor reports on correspondence and reviews our Proceedings for 1894.

Lodges, 232; members, 16,001; increase, 496.

W. W. Perry (Madison), G. M.

John W. Laflin (Milwaukee), G. S.

WYOMING

21st Communication, Rock Springs, Sept. 10, 1895.

Jethro T. Holliday, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"Although during the first part of the year past, our country was still suffering from the great financial panic and business depression, our lodges have generally been growing in numbers and are in a satisfactory financial condition. With the return of prosperity throughout the country, and especially in those sections near us which suffered greatly from an unprecedented drouth, and directly affected our State, we can confidently look forward to a prosperous year among our people, and prosperity within our several lodges."

The Wisconsin Relief proposition was adopted as an amendment to the Constitution.

In his notice of Canada, for 1894, the Grand Secretary has the following:

"From the report of the Board on Benevolence that grants for benevolent purposes in 1893 amounted to $8,085.00, and in 1894 to $9,385.00. an increase of $1,400.00. This speaks well for our Canadian brethren. Grand Lodge finances appear to be in splendid condition. We are inclined to believe the Canadian system of dispensing charity would be a good thing if adopted on this side the border."

Lodges, 16; members, 976; increase, 60.

F. Chatterton (Rawlins), G. M.

William L. Kuykendall (Saratoga), G. S.

CONCLUSION.

"While princes and heroes promiscuously fight,
And for the world's empire exert all their might,
We sit in the lodges from danger secure,
No hardships we meet with, no pains to endure;
But each brother cheerfully joins in a song;
Our rites we renew,
Our pleasure pursue;
Thus we waft time along.

"To restless ambition we never give way,
Our friends and our secrets we never betray;
Henceforth, O ye Heroes, your ravages cease,
And the laurels ye wear, to Freemasons release;
Tho' ye won them by warfare, we claim them by peace;
They are ours, ours, ours, ours, ours;
Tho' ye won them by warfare, we claim them by peace.'

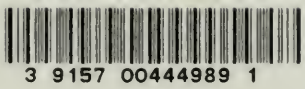
All of which fraternally submitted,

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada, June 1, 1896.

LIST OF PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1895	Nevada	1895
Arizona	1895	New Brunswick	1895
Arkansas	1895	New Hampshire	1895
British Columbia	1895	New Jersey	1896
California	1895	New Mexico	1895
Colorado	1895	New South Wales	1895
Connecticut	1896	New York	1895
Delaware	1895	New Zealand	1894-95
District of Columbia	1895	North Carolina	1895
Florida	1896	North Dakota	1895
Georgia	1895	Nova Scotia	1895
Idaho	1895	Ohio	1895
Illinois	1895	Okalahoma	1895
Indiana	1895	Oregon	1895
Indian Territory	1895	Pennsylvania	1895
Iowa	1895	Prince Edward Island	1895
Kansas	1896	Quebec	1896
Kentucky	1895	Rhode Island	1895
Louisiana	1896	South Carolina	1895
Maine	1895	South Dakota	1895
Manitoba	1895	Tennessee	1896
Maryland	1895	Texas	1895
Massachusetts	1895	Utah	1896
Michigan	1896	Vermont	1895
Minnesota	1896	Virginia	1895
Mississippi	1896	Washington	1895
Missouri	1895	West Virginia	1895
Montana	1895	Wisconsin	1895
Nebraska	1895	Wyoming	1895


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